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80 Tories may vote for referendum

Euro-sceptics offered deal by Goldsmith

By Philip Webster and Andrew Pierce



It is the judgment of the people that is now required

— Bill Cash, page 18

CONSERVATIVE MPs are being advised today to back a Commons Bill proposing a referendum on Europe to reduce the threat of a general election challenge from Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party.

In a move that seems certain to stir the Tory turmoil over Europe, supporters of Bill Cash's Referendum Bill reminded colleagues last night that Sir James has promised not to put up candidates against MPs who favour a plebiscite on Britain's fundamental relations with the European Union.

And sources close to the Referendum Party told The Times that MPs who backed the measure today, and remained consistent on the issue up to the election, would be safe from challenge.

In an attempt to lower the political temperature, the Government has decided against formally opposing the Bill this afternoon. Ministers and their aides are to abstain. Aides tempted to back Mr Cash are being told not to, but

at least two unpaid parliamentary private secretaries were considering defying that order and facing the sack.

Mr Cash's measure would ask people whether they favoured a renegotiation of Britain's membership terms to prevent it ever going into a federal Europe or a monetary union. Supporters hope that up to 80 Tory MPs will back it,

and senior Tory party sources admitted last night that the Goldsmith threat would be a powerful incentive to MPs in marginal seats. Pro-Europeans intend to save their main attack on Mr Cash until after the vote, when the European Movement led by Edwina Currie and Quentin Davies will launch a counter-blast at a press conference.

Sir James's impact on Tory Euro-politics was underlined last night when he attended a meeting of the Conservative Philosophy Group at the home of Jonathan Aitken, the former Cabinet minister who is a sponsor of the Cash Bill. Others present included Mr Cash, the former Chancellor Norman Lamont, who presented a paper considering the option of withdrawing from the EU, and Alan Duncan, PPS to the Tory chairman, Brian Mawhinney.

Mr Duncan denied that there was anything unduly provocative about his attendance. He told BBC Radio 4: "I think that a cost/benefit analysis of the membership of the EU is a valuable thing to have in politics. I think that any proper assessment of the benefits of the membership of the EU is in many ways overdue."

Another PPS said that he was in favour of the Bill. He said: "It is very tempting for those of us in marginal seats. A number of us would vote for this if we were not part of the payroll. So far, I am minded not to support the Bill because it has no chance of becoming law. If it had a realistic chance of making progress I would support it and live with the consequences."

Sir James, who is expected to stand against David Mellor in Putney at the general election, continued on page 2, col 3

Peter Riddell, page 11
Letters, page 19



"I'd vote to quit the EU, but I'll be holidaying in Spain at the time"



The Duke of Edinburgh, who was 75 yesterday, and the Queen tour an exhibition on his life which he opened at the Guildhall in Windsor

The Queen beats Elizabethan record

By Emma Wilkins

THE QUEEN becomes the fifth longest reigning English monarch tomorrow when she overtakes a record set by her Tudor namesake.

In 1,000 years of English history, only four other monarchs have enjoyed greater longevity on the throne than the present Queen, who will have to wait until after the millennium to overtake the next record. Elizabeth I came to the throne on November 17,

1558, and died on May 25, 1603. Her glorious reign of 44 years and 126 days saw England's foes confounded with the defeat of the Spanish Armada and boundaries expanded with conquests in the New World. The Queen, who came to the throne on February 6, 1952, has reigned for 44 years and 126 days today.

Both monarchs were aged 25 when they were enthroned but Queen Elizabeth I died shortly before her seventieth birthday — a birthday landmark

the Queen has already celebrated with a dinner party at Windsor Castle. The next record falls in 2002 when the Queen will have reigned longer than Edward III, who lasted on the throne for 50 years from 1327 to 1377.

The 56-year record of Henry III (1216-1272) will fall in 2008. The record of George III, who reigned for 59 years from 1760-1820 with occasional lapses into madness, will fall in 2012. The longest reigning monarch in British history is Queen Victoria, with an

imperial 63 years and 216 days. To surpass her great-great-grandmother, the Queen will have to wait until September 11, 2015, when she will be 89.

It has been a busy week for landmarks, with the Duke of Edinburgh's 75th birthday yesterday and the Trooping the Colour ceremony marking the Queen's official birthday on Saturday.

Letters, page 19

Rifkind faces wrath of EU ministers

By Charles Bremner in Luxembourg and Philip in London

MALCOLM RIFKIND bore the brunt of the fiercest anti-British attack from Europe for years yesterday when he vetoed another package of measures. But there were signs last night that an accord could end the feud over British beef in time for the Florence summit next week.

The Foreign Secretary again softened his stance by unexpectedly letting through two measures at a council of ministers meeting in Luxembourg, but he insisted that the blocking policy had forced Britain's partners to work on a solution to the crisis. And Jacques Santer, the European Commission President, said: "We may be on the home straight."

Led by Hans Van Mierlo of the Netherlands, all 14 other ministers at the Luxembourg meeting denounced Britain in terms ranging from "blackmail" to "incomprehensible". Hervé de Charette, the French minister whose remarks were said by British officials to have been the mildest, said Britain was shooting itself in the foot, and Lamberto Dini of Italy, who is leading the effort to find a compromise by Florence, said: "All ministers

unanimously deplored the indiscriminate boycott by the UK."

However, Mr Rifkind earned some credit by allowing through three measures whose blocking would have caused particular pain. He had been expected to back an agreement clearing the way for Slovenia to apply for EU membership, but he also endorsed help for the elections in Bosnia-Herzegovina and a mandate for an EU accord with Algeria.

Downing Street said that the latter softening was the result of France's helpful attitude during the beef crisis. Sources added that the cash for Bosnia was being allowed through because it was important, in the interest of British troops, not to hinder a move towards stable government.

However, 17 other measures were shelved by the British veto. These included a dialogue with Syria, a programme to promote the reform of the Russian economy and a statement on Indonesian behaviour in East Timor, a measure promoted originally by Britain. Tony Blair, the fisheries minister, continued on page 2, col 1

Major struggles to save Ulster talks

By Arthur Leathley, Nicholas Watt and Audrey Magee

JOHN MAJOR struggled to keep Unionists at the all-party talks on Northern Ireland last night after the opening day was disrupted by objections to former Senator George Mitchell's role as chairman.

The Prime Minister held behind-the-scenes talks with the three Unionist leaders as a highly-charged day at Stormont was overshadowed by a Sinn Féin protest at being excluded from negotiations.

Gerry Adams, the party president, led Sinn Féin's newly-elected delegates up to the gates of Belfast's Castle Buildings, the venue for the talks, to demand entry, despite the IRA's refusal to renew its ceasefire.

Amid chaotic scenes as more than 100 journalists surrounded Mr Adams, a British official said Sinn Féin could only join the negotiations if the IRA declared a truce.

Mr Major denounced the Sinn Féin protest as "grandstanding", but directed most of his attention to preventing a Unionist walk-out. He faced angry demands to drop the IRA's agenda for the talks from David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, the

Reverend Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist leader, and Bob McCartney, the leader of the United Kingdom Unionists. Mr Major insisted that Mr Mitchell would be impartial and that an agenda for the talks would not be imposed. However, he said he expected Mr Mitchell to take on his role as chairman.

His comments were echoed by John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, who said Mr Mitchell's appointment was tangible evidence of President Clinton's "unwavering support" for the peace process.

Mr Major emphasised that he would not bow to republican pressure to allow Sinn Féin to join the talks before an IRA ceasefire. In some of his strongest language since the collapse of the ceasefire in February, Mr Major said: "I believe it is wicked that the shadow of violence has reappeared in Northern Ireland. I hope that we are going to get an unequivocal ceasefire before too long."

Unionists last night claimed that they had successfully delayed the appointment of

Continued on page 2, col 6

Leading article, page 19

Scots field Jerusalem substitute

By Stephen Farrell and Adrian Lee

SCOTTISH football supporters drew satisfaction from their 0-0 European Championship draw yesterday — but Scottish television admitted defeat over the "too English" Euro 96 signature tune.

Protests of bias led to the hasty editing out of the hymn Jerusalem for all matches involving the Scotland team. Also gone are video clips of Dover's white cliffs and of Bobby Moore lifting the Jules Rimet trophy after England's 1966 World Cup success.

STV confirmed viewers had complained but insisted the company itself decided on the substitution.

Fellow ITV company Grampian has no plans to change the titles for its 1.1 million viewers in the Highlands.

After the Birmingham match, West Midlands police praised the Tartan and Orange armies of Scottish and Dutch football supporters. There were only two arrests for drunkenness among Scottish fans beforehand, and one for pitch invasion after.

Thistle and rose, page 47
Match report, page 52

BA in biggest air deal

BRITISH Airways is expected to announce today that it is linking up with American Airlines to form the world's largest airline group, in a deal that is also likely to end restrictions on foreign planes using British airspace.

The alliance will also reform the transatlantic flight market although experts were divided yesterday as to whether the

move would lead to lower prices or see the two airlines using their combined muscle to force them up.

The exact terms are unclear although it seems likely that the link will involve revenue and profit-sharing as well as joint marketing. The two airlines will effectively act as one but will remain separate companies. Page 27

Great expectations for schoolgirl novelist

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A SCHOOLGIRL is on her way to making her first million after a transatlantic publishing deal for her debut novel which has netted \$640,000 (over £400,000) in pre-publication rights.

There has been extraordinary excitement (and hype) in book circles about *Necessary Madness*, a love story set in England. Jean Crowell, now 18, who wrote the book in her penultimate year at secondary school, has never visited Britain and based her research on British television sitcoms and by reading the books of Margaret Atwood and Sue (Adrian Mole) Townsend. Manhattan

publishers yesterday could not think of comparable sums being paid for a novel from one so young. "It seems hard to believe that a kid can be worth that much," said one source. Lisa Dawson, Miss Crowell's editor at GP Putnam, said: "Her writing is splendid, very intimate and beautiful." Hodder and Stoughton in London paid £200,000 for British rights to *Necessary Madness* and to Miss Crowell's next book. Publishers in Germany, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Norway and Sweden have paid a total of \$340,000 for rights to the first book, and further sign-ups are expected. There will also be book club deals and other commercial spin-offs. If public reaction when the book is published next year

matches expectations, Miss Crowell will have no difficulty paying her way through the English undergraduate course at Goucher College, Baltimore.

Miss Crowell, who lives with her mother and stepfather in Pennsylvania, currently has no boyfriend but a rush of suitors is now probable. *Unnecessary Madness* took her three months to write, but she had "lived with" the characters since she was 13. Aged 14, she started to attend a writers' workshop, and it was there that she refined her idea. For her editors, there is some readjusting to do. Lunching with her, one must learn not to betray too much dismay when one's companion spurns the wine list and orders instead a can of Tizer.



Jean Crowell: idea for first book when only 13

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Freewheeling or back-peddalling, Norris stays in the saddle

Harry Greenway, the diminutive Conservative MP from Ealing North, appeared at the House yesterday in the longest blue tie that has ever been seen there. This combination of short man with long tie produced an overall picture not unlike a map of the Nile split vertically in two by a single electric-blue streak.

Mr Greenway was (I hear) upset recently by my quotation from an old newspaper headline, "Tory MP on bribe charges", so I ought to make clear that all charges were dropped. For fashion crimes, however, he leaves the court

disgraced. "Tory MP on dreadful tie charges." Send him down. There is no appeal. There being no serious business, it was a day for watching MPs' little foibles. They spent most of Transport Questions discussing bicycles, prompted by eager, rosy-cheeked young Andrew Robathan (C, Blaby), who loves to spread the joys of cycling. Having heard his news already, I concentrated on his body-language.

It is deeply alarming. Something in Mr Robathan's suppressed psyche is signalling a mute protest against matrimony. When on his feet he tugs



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

desperately at the base of each finger on his left hand with the thumb and forefinger of his right, as though trying to pull off a stuck wedding ring in something close to panic. I cannot remember what he said about bicycles.

The minister, the free-wheeling and much-bedded Steven Norris, sported a huge gold watch on his left wrist, a leather bracelet on his right. A certain carelessness (he is

standing down at the election) has produced in Mr Norris an enormous and stylish polish. "I wondered why the Hon Gentleman was on his own," he smiled to a lonely David Rendel (Lib Dem, Newbury) amid several empty benches, "then I realised he was a Liberal defending a by-pass."

Norris claimed to be "a late and unlikely convert to the bicycle". Hearing Labour giggles, Norris admitted that the

prospect of himself in Lycra shorts was horrific, then reminded us that Holland was very flat but Switzerland quite the reverse.

Steven Norris and Edwina Currie attended school together as adolescents and tongues at Westminster wag that he snogged her behind the bicycle sheds. This trauma may explain why nobody remembers Mrs Currie ever mentioning the sport.

Nigel Spearing (Lab, Newham South) weighed in, as he always does on cycling. Earnest, literal-minded Mr Spearing was born in cycle clips and is still on his bike at

65. His very voice suggests the slow, relentless tick-tick of a Sturme-Archer hub in third gear.

"There's no older convert to cycling," said Norris blandly to Spearing, then, realising the remark might have stung, tried to back-pedal. "That's the reason he looks so fit." Was this enough to mollify?

Norris back-peddalled harder: "And the reason I look so unfit is that I cycle so little." Would that do? "And good luck to him," said Norris, just in case.

Toby Jessel (C, Twickenham) looks like one of those boys who could never balance

and kept crashing into trees. "I'm not a convert to cycling," he roared. He detested cyclists "whizzing along on their bikes, from behind, noiselessly".

He demanded the return of bicycle bells. Mr Jessel, who whizzes along anything but noiselessly, would never need one.

Denis MacShane (Lab, Rotherham) another cyclist. "I've been knocked off close to St Stephen's entrance to the Commons," he complained. Norris, who has been knocked off in places other than MPs only dream about, smiled mysteriously.

Experts divided over dangers of CJD from land disposal of slaughtered cattle remains

Farmers face fines and prison over illegal animal feed

By DOMINIC KENNEDY AND LIN JENKINS

EXPERTS were divided yesterday over the risks to public health from the disposal of land of the remains of cattle slaughtered in the cull against "mad cow" disease.

They spoke as the Government announced an amnesty for farmers to return banned animal feed blamed for the start of the BSE crisis, before fines and imprisonment for the possession of the meal are introduced in August.

The debate about disposal was sparked by the disclosure that Canterbury Mills in Kent was spreading liquid effluent from the rendering process on to land on its plant.

Dr Alan Colchester, who has been treating three of five people believed to be suffering from CJD in Kent, called for the land to be sealed off in case it infected people or animals. The first herd to be diagnosed with mad cow disease in Britain was in nearby Ashford in 1985.

Professor Richard Lacey, one of the loudest voices warning of the connection between BSE and the human equivalent CJD, feared that the practice could lead to the return of the illness to Britain even if the entire national herd was killed.

But others dismissed the dangers as negligible. They said the prion protein which causes BSE should be destroyed during rendering.



Richard Lacey said plant met all EU regulations

which involves boiling at high temperatures for long periods.

Canterbury Mills is thought to be the only one of the nine rendering plants disposing of the remains of cattle being slaughtered in the cull which has permission to spread the liquid effluent on land, according to the Environment Agency, which is responsible for waste disposal. The others, at Huddersfield, Aberdeenshire, Dumfries, Lancaster, Stoke on Trent, Widnes, Bradford and Motherwell, are all understood to pump it into the sewage system.

Renderers are dealing with 18,000 carcasses a week and are expected to have to cope with 250,000 cattle before the cull, which began last month, is finished in about six months. Scientists are deeply

divided about the dangers posed by the remains of cattle which have been through the rendering process, which involves boiling at high temperatures such as 145C for an hour.

The Ministry of Agriculture yesterday announced fines and imprisonment for farmers still keeping banned animal feed from the remains of sheep and cattle, which was blamed for the BSE outbreak. There will be a £5,000 fine for a first offence and one month's jail for a second.

Earlier yesterday, the Canterbury Mills rendering plant defended its practices. Set in prime agricultural land in Godmersham, Kent, Canterbury Mills has been in operation since the 1930s.

Joseph Cheale, managing director, dismissed concerns raised by Dr Colchester, consultant neurologist at Guy's Hospital, that infected agents in effluent discharged from the plant could reach humans through direct contact or the water supply.

"If there was a danger we would not do it. The rendering process is right and effective. What escapes peoples attention is the fact that this process is the same as the human body's," said Mr Cheale.

He said that viruses and bacteria enter the sewage system from a variety of sources. "So why should what we do be any less safe?" he said. The plant is dealing with 1,800 culled carcasses a week.



Anne Graham co-ordinates local opposition from her home near the plant

Dead trees around the mill are just one of the reasons local people want it closed. The stench affects the surrounding villages of Waltham, Chatham, Godmersham, Petham and Crundale, but local campaigners also complain of contaminated lands and of spillage on the road.

David Richardson, site manager, said the plant complied with all EU safety standards. Ministry of Agriculture Food and Fisheries inspectors visited twice each day. Operations go on 24 hours a day, six days a week. Some of the

resulting effluent is sprayed on 40 acres of land where they grow linseed. "There is no health hazard," he said.

The Forestry Commission opposed plans to tip a further 26,000 gallons a day on fields next to the plant. It claimed dumping effluent on their land without permission had already done serious damage.

Anne Graham, who co-ordinates local opposition to the plant from her home in Petham said only last Friday fell from one of the lorries. She said blood and carcasses could often be seen

in the open and the smell and the draining of effluent on to land were unnecessary.

"It is a very Jurassic method they use and positively antediluvian to leave effluent on the land. We want it shut down and the new health dimension with CJD will help our cause."

She had asked Dr Colchester to visit the plant and consider the health risks. "We have always fought on planning and environmental grounds. But it is only with the government talking about BSE that we considered this aspect," she said.

Germans ready to prolong beef ban

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMAN politicians signalled yesterday that they were ready to defy the European Commission and uphold a unilateral ban on British beef throughout the summer and beyond.

The threat came at a highly charged meeting in Berlin between ministers from Germany's 16 provincial states and Horst Seehofer, the Federal Health Minister. Germany is justifying its current ban on British beef and its derivatives on the basis of a six-month emergency decree allowing it to override European free trade legislation. But it cannot be extended beyond September.

Baerbel Hohn, Agricultural Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, said: "We must keep this ban in place, even beyond September, unless there is a convincing case presented that British beef products are safe. At the moment this seems unlikely."

Herr Seehofer is strictly against any relaxation. According to a leaked report by a German member of the inspection team in Britain, British selection procedures were sloppy. "There is no proper separation of animals. That puts the whole system in question."

The German Government is demanding that the Commission set up an expert committee of scientists, vets and doctors in an attempt to reach a definitive and objective assessment of the potential health risks of BSE.

Interpol alert for road-rage suspect

Interpol has sent out a worldwide alert for Kenneth Noye, the robber who is wanted by Kent detectives for questioning over the M25 "road rage" murder of Stephen Carreron. Yesterday police sources confirmed that Noye, who stabbed and killed an undercover Scotland Yard detective investigating the £26 million Brink's-Mat bullion robbery, is on a list of possible suspects circulated from the Interpol headquarters in Lyons.

Noye, who was released from prison in 1994, went to Spain shortly after the M25 murder and is now reported to be in Turkey.

£75m golden gift

Arthur Gilbert, 82, who moved from London to America 47 years ago and made a fortune from property deals, has given Britain a £75 million collection of gold and silverware. Michael Heseltine said it was an act of "remarkable generosity". A £155 million lottery grant has been made for refurbishment.

Bosnian girl dies

An eight-year-old Bosnian girl brought to England two weeks ago for an operation to remove shrapnel has died. Anitra Dzhanic was seriously injured while playing in Sarajevo when she picked up a gun cartridge that exploded in her face. The Lions Club International raised £8,000 to fund her treatment in Nottingham.

Booth's new post

Cherie Booth, QC, has taken a step towards her ambition of becoming a judge by being appointed an assistant recorder. Ms Booth, 41, who became a QC only last autumn, is to sit only on civil cases in her part-time post. Ms Booth started work last week after brief training and a week sitting beside a full-time judge.

Gun amnesty

The Home Office said it was disappointed at the response to the first week of the gun amnesty after fewer than 4,000 weapons were surrendered to police. The weapons included an AK47 assault rifle, a rocket launcher and a wide range of handguns. A similar amnesty in 1988 yielded 9,000 in the first week.

Air rebels back

The 91 British passengers stranded at Orlando airport, Florida, after they left a plane over safety worries arrived at Gatwick, where they faced a final journey back to Manchester. Most returned free on Virgin Atlantic and British Airways planes but some paid to catch earlier flights.

Mentor to marry

Richard Morley, who has bequeathed his Forest of Dean castle and fortune to Jay Khadka, 19, a former Nepalese mountain boy, announced that he is to marry Helen Thomas, 41, who used to work as a waitress in the former hotel at Clearwell Castle. Mr Morley, 42, is fighting a deportation order against Jay.

CORRECTION

HP Bulmer, the cider company, has since 1991 made a capital investment of £2 million a year in its IT systems development and replacement programme (report, June 5).

EU ministers' wrath

Continued from page 1
also blocked one measure at a separate meeting where he denounced the EU for allowing "quota-hopping" Spanish vessels to take British fish.

After the foreign ministers' anger, described by one official as "a great therapy session", ministers voiced general support for advancing Britain's scheme for a "framework" accord on the eventual lifting of the beef ban, the condition that Britain has laid down for ending its policy of non-cooperation.

Mr Rifkind was delighted to quote Mr Santer's upbeat comment, but his remark was deemed wildly optimistic by the Dutch and German ministers.

Britain's goal is for the framework plan, which has no dates attached, to be rushed through the EU's machinery and ready for approval by the leaders in Florence. Veterinary officials are to review the

plan on Friday. The Commission will report on its findings to foreign ministers in Rome on Monday and the Commission would then endorse a formal proposal on Wednesday to be handed to Florence two days later.

But while all EU states are eager to put an end to the crisis, many face intense opposition at home to any easing of the ban.

Britain's scheme — which has strong backing from the Commission in its approach, if not its detail — is to set out the scientific criteria which will be applied to each phase of lifting the ban. This would seek to avert blocking at the technical level, as happened in the campaign to lift the ban on by-products. An overall framework, backed by governments, would ensure that it could not be blocked by a minority of member states out of domestic political pressures. Mr Rifkind said.

Cash Bill

Continued from page 1
tion, has said that he would spend £20 million "or what ever it takes" to oppose candidates who are not committed to a referendum — and Tory strategists believe that his party could win enough votes in marginal constituencies to cost them up to 20 seats.

In April, 66 Tory MPs supported Iain Duncan-Smith's backbench Bill to curb the powers of the European Court, and the vote against current government policy could be greater today. Most Labour MPs are expected to abstain, but Denis MacShane said he would vote against. "The issue is not whether there is a referendum — I'm in favour of one. But the form of words are dictated by Sir James Goldsmith and are designed to secure a British withdrawal."

Peter Riddell, page 11
Bill Cash, page 18

Shepherd sets limit on school selection

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GILLIAN SHEPHERD plans to introduce laws this autumn that will allow comprehensive schools to select 20 per cent of their pupils.

The Education Secretary will present a paper to a Cabinet sub-committee today stating that if comprehensive schools wish to select at all they will have to select a fifth of their pupils. "The 20 per cent figure is both a floor and a ceiling," a source said yesterday.

The original draft White Paper suggested a 15 per cent ceiling for comprehensive schools. But Mrs Shepherd decided yesterday that the figure should be higher.

Education sources denied that she had been put under pressure by her colleagues to

increase the figure. One said: "If we are going to have no legislation anyway we might as well go beyond 15 per cent."

The White Paper will also propose that grant-maintained schools can select up to 50 per cent of their pupils, while specialist colleges that have not opted out of council control will be able to select 30 per cent of their students.

Initially Mrs Shepherd argued for a maximum of 20 per cent selection for grant-maintained schools, with a lower figure for comprehensives. But the Downing Street Policy Unit and some of her right-wing colleagues pressed her to be more radical.

She is hoping to introduce a short Bill this autumn focusing on the selection changes.

Ulster talks struggle

Continued from page 1

Mr Mitchell said that he had won an assurance from British ministers that their demand for another chairman would be considered. By early evening, Mr Mitchell had still not taken the helm and Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, chaired the talks in the opening session.

Mr Paisley said: "We saw the Prime Minister and pointed out that he had himself to blame for what had happened. To do what he had done would not work and was not going to work... I would say that we have succeeded in stopping them from strangling these talks."

The Democratic Unionists hailed Sir Patrick's extended chairmanship as a victory over the Irish Government, which had expected to exercise joint control over the opening session.

Mr Trimble said that Unionists were pressing for a

committee to propose an alternative chairman.

Despite the objections to Mr Mitchell, Mr Major was said to have been delighted that Unionists "bit the bullet" by remaining at the talks. The three main Unionist leaders listened to Mr Major's opening address and, for the first time in his 30-year political career, Mr Paisley listened to a speech by an Irish Prime Minister.

The leader of the Democratic Unionists protested against the Taoiseach's presence by interrupting him and demanding an explanation of what he would do about the Republic's territorial claim to Northern Ireland.

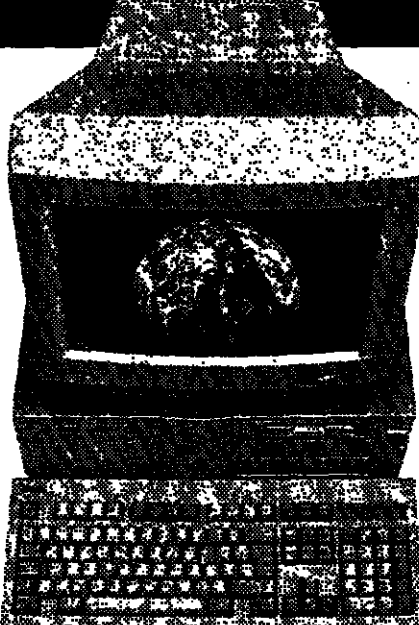
Mr Bruton said later that Unionist concerns had been overlooked in the past, but now had to be recognised. He criticised the IRA's refusal to restore a ceasefire.

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Tribunal orders de Savary to compensate young chef

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE businessman Peter de Savary was intimidating and intemperate toward a young chef working at his Highland country club, an industrial tribunal said yesterday.

Mr de Savary remained unrepentant after the tribunal's detailed unanimous findings were released. He said that his Carnegie Club at Skibo Castle, where Mick Jagger, Jack Nicholson and Michael Dou-

glas are staying, had a reputation big enough to withstand complaints from those he described as rotten apples not up to the job.

The tribunal heard evidence in Inverness a month ago and ruled that Jason Gill of Wantage, Oxfordshire, had been unfairly and constructively dismissed. It was claimed that kitchen staff at Skibo were worked to exhaustion while guests paying £500 a night were pampered upstairs. The tribunal

ordered that Mr Gill be paid almost £3,500 for compensation and loss of earnings.

Mr de Savary, 52, said in London yesterday that Mr Gill and a former head chef, Dolina Swanson, who gave evidence against his company, were rotten apples among a staff of 100. He had employed many thousands since he was 16 and had never been taken to an industrial tribunal before or had disagreements with staff. Mr de Savary said

that he felt the tribunal had painted a one-sided picture and that he had made a mistake in not hiring a lawyer to represent his company.

The tribunal said that Mr de Savary's behaviour towards the chef was unreasonable and unfair. He had broken the mutual trust and confidence there should be between employer and worker by embarrassing Mr Gill's parents when they stayed in a club chalet in lieu of their son being paid £600.

Mr Gill told the tribunal: "The first night they were there Mr de Savary came in and asked who the hell they were. When he was told, he said: 'This is not a holiday camp' and my parents left the following day, badly humiliated and embarrassed." The tribunal called Mr de Savary's behaviour "intemperate, inappropriate and unjustified".

A second incident involved salad platters that Mr Gill had prepared after working an 81-hour week. The

tribunal said that the public humiliation to which Mr de Savary subjected Mr Gill over the incident had proved the last straw, causing Mr Gill to resign.

The tribunal criticised Mr de Savary's company, Skibo Ltd, for breaking undertakings to pay overtime and to hire more staff. It did not believe that Mr Gill had been rude and unapologetic when reproached about the salad platters, as Mr de Savary had claimed.



De Savary: unrepentant

TV version of how 'H' was killed saddens his widow

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE widow of Colonel "H" Jones, the Falklands War commander, said last night that she was saddened by a Channel 4 documentary which suggests that his death was a needless waste.

Sara Jones, whose husband was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross for his part in the charge on an Argentine trench during the Falklands campaign, said she had not co-operated with Channel 4 programme-makers, who claim to have the first interview with the soldier who killed her husband during the Battle of Goose Green.

The battle was the first time that a battalion was committed to a full attack on the Argentinians after the British force had landed. After an initial advance, the momentum of the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, was halted by fierce machinegun fire.

Last night The Parachute

Regiment made clear that Colonel Jones's courageous action was the culminating point in the battle which added resolution and determination to the whole battalion. His actions led to a renewed effort and the eventual surrender of the Argentinians in Goose Green.

Mrs Jones said yesterday: "It would be very sad if they want to paint a negative picture and just rake the whole thing over after 14 years." She added that it was typical of the mood today "that if anyone does something that is good, then someone has to come and cast aspersions over it".

It had been thought that the colonel died in a hail of machinegun fire and that it was therefore not possible to identify who had killed him. A Channel 4 spokeswoman said, however: "Through research we have found the man who shot him. He will describe the way the colonel died." She

added that the programme, the first of a new series of *Secret History*, would transform the accepted view of the battle. It also includes an interview with a British commander who insists that the engagement should never have been fought. "It emerges as very chaotic," she said.

Mrs Jones, who was appointed OBE last year for her work for bereaved military families, said that it was absurd to suggest that the battle should never have been fought. "If you are face to face with your enemy, what else do you do?" she said.

A spokeswoman for the Ministry of Defence said it was astonishing for someone to be able to describe in detail how Colonel Jones died. She added that Channel 4 had not consulted the Armed Forces.

The series is part of a strong summer schedule, announced yesterday, aimed at attracting those who want a respite from the sport that will dominate television. John Willis, Channel 4's director of programmes, said: "We have more than 30 new or returning factual strands and series as well as new comedy and drama."

The channel continues its reputation for polemics with *If I Were Prime Minister*, a series in which public figures detail the changes they would make if they could run the country. Contributors include Germaine Greer and "Mad" Frankie Fraser, the gangland figure who has served more than 40 years in jail for various criminal offences.



The late Colonel H Jones and his wife Sara. Channel 4 claims to have found the soldier who killed him



The season of art and design graduate shows opened yesterday with a public airing for the creations of Britain's most famous fashion nursery, St Martin's College of Art in central London. The elegant dress by Alfredo

Girombelli, above, was one of the collections by the 88 graduating students. However, the fashion designers Roland Klein and Ben De Lisi both said the college risked lowering standards by taking too many students.

Father chained delinquent son to garage wall

By CAROL MIDGLEY

A MAN who chained his teenage son in a garage and forced him to eat two cigarettes in an attempt to stop him smoking was jailed for three years yesterday.

The 37-year-old car mechanic, described as a "good and caring" parent, also poured paint thinner over his son and held a lighter to his T-shirt after ten years of unruly behaviour by the boy, Nottingham Crown Court was told.

He and the boy's mother, who had asked doctors and social services for help, decided to punish the 15-year-old after he tried to set fire to the garage in Warsop, Nottinghamshire. They bundled him into a van and drove him to the garage, where he was chained by the wrists to a hook protruding from the wall.

He was cut free by police after a group of youths who saw him being bundled away raised the alarm.

His mother, 41, who admitted that the chaining was her idea and did nothing to stop it, was given a 15-month prison sentence, suspended for two years. Judge Mathewman, QC, told the couple, who admitted cruelty to a child, that they had committed a "brutal and sadistic offence".

He said: "You used methods of discipline which were not merely inappropriate, but cruel and degrading and criminal... This episode was not the result of a single short-tempered burst where you lost control. It was a deliberate course of action on that day to punish a young man who was, we have been told, a problem."

"One shudders to think that anybody, particularly a parent, could do what you did. To make him eat two cigarettes to stop him smoking is about as cruel a thing as one can imagine."

The parents told the police they had been driven to desperation by their son's behaviour since the age of five. He had stolen £400 from his parents, robbed his grandmother and beaten up his eight-year-old brother.

Balraj Bhatia, in defence of the mother, said there were eight pages of evidence about the boy's conduct. From the age of five he would excrete on the floor and rub it on to the furniture and walls. "This continued until he was eight. He would urinate in his toy box on a weekly basis, simply to annoy his parents. His doctors said he would grow out of it."

"He began stealing, cheating and lying from a very early age. These were good, caring and respectable parents. If a jury had heard the full story... I venture to suggest they would have had the greatest sympathy for the mother over what she had had to put with. This is an exceptional case. It would be preposterous to even contemplate a sentence of a severe nature for the mother."

Christopher Eason, defending the father, said: "This offence was committed after the father had explored all other options. He is a good father but reacted in a way which was inappropriate."

The boy, who cannot be identified, is currently facing charges of aggravated vehicle-taking and burglary. He is in foster care.

Drink-drive suspect 'set fire to lab'

By RICHARD DUCE

A MAN arrested on suspicion of drink-driving launched two arson attacks on a laboratory to try to destroy his blood sample, the Old Bailey was told yesterday. Anael Hawes, 22, hired two recruits, including a 13-year-old boy, to help him to set fire to the laboratory in Surrey.

The first attack on the Chalfont Applied Research laboratory in Blindley Heath was followed by a second after Mr Hawes learnt that the police prosecution was continuing. Damage to the building totalled £90,000.

Jonathan Laidlaw, for the prosecution, told the jury that Mr Hawes, of East Grinstead, West Sussex, had two samples of his blood taken, one for analysis by police and the other for his own use. Mr Hawes paid £70 for his sample to be independently analysed, when it gave a reading of 52mg of alcohol to 100ml of blood. The police sample produced a reading of 108mg. The legal limit is 80mg.

Mr Laidlaw said Mr Hawes had tampered with his sample and, as it became clear that his attempt to avoid conviction had failed, he attacked the laboratory. Hawes and the boy, who cannot be named, deny charges of arson and attempting to pervert the course of justice. The trial continues.

Smoker goes to court to contest rail cigarette ban

By PETER FOSTER

A 60-A-DAY smoker began a High Court challenge yesterday against a blanket smoking ban introduced by a regional railway company.

Peter Boddington, 42, was fined £10 with £100 costs last July after he ignored no-smoking signs and lit up in the buffet area of a Network South Central train travelling from London to Brighton.

The businessman, who owns Tooting Market in south London, has since spent over £10,000 on legal fees fighting the conviction.

David Pannick, QC, for Mr Boddington, said the ban, introduced in 1993, was both illegal and unreasonable. He argued that under the Transport Act of 1962, only the British Railways Board had the power to make bylaws to regulate smoking on the railways. Network South Central had no authority.

"This is a case of excess and abuse of power, concerned with a person issuing a notice when that person had no lawful power to do so," he added.

Mr Pannick, a non-smoker, also questioned whether it was reasonable for the railways board to use criminal law to prohibit a lawful activity for purely commercial reasons.

Mr Pannick said that when Parliament allowed the railways board to bring in the smoking bylaw in 1962 it would never have intended that it be used for a blanket ban or to allow the board to create a criminal offence.

Nicholas Ainley, for the British Transport Police, said the bylaw was valid: "All the magistrates had to decide was whether the defendant had before him fell within the bylaw if the notice was in an appropriate form, and assuming he was smoking in such a carriage, he is guilty."

Mr Boddington, of Brighton, said after the case that he would be taking the train back to Brighton and would be lighting up in the buffet area as normal. He said: "The ban is illegal and unreasonable. This case is being taken very seriously because it affects the rights of 16 million smokers in this country."

Mr Boddington, who runs a tobacco stall in his market, added that Network South Central had made misleading use of the customer survey used to justify the ban. He claimed most people wanted provision for smoking.

Lord Justice Auld and Mrs Justice Ebsworth reserved their judgment.

Deportee takes refuge in church

By RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

A HONG KONG citizen has taken sanctuary in a Methodist chapel after failing to arrive at Heathrow airport to be deported from Britain.

Albert Tong, 43, disappeared hours before he was to leave Britain. He is now living in a Methodist chapel in Marazion, near Penzance, with the support of local church leaders. He arrived in Britain in December 1979 and was allowed entry for a month as a visitor. In February 1992 he was served with a deportation notice.

Mr Tong, who has a wife and three-year-old daughter, said he had no regrets about going on the run. "If I went back to Hong Kong I think I will never come back to see my family."

Ken Taylor, speaking on behalf of Mr Tong's supporters, said they would back his call for sanctuary while the Home Office looked at the case again. The local Methodist Church Council decided ten days ago to offer a refuge to anyone. Elizabeth Fairweather, its treasurer, said: "We felt it was all we could do. It's our Christian duty."

A Home Office spokesman said: "Sanctuary has no basis in law. Anyone who has a deportation order against them is liable to arrest, detention and enforced removal."

Peer's wife knees burglar in the groin

By JOANNA BALE

THE elderly wife of the Labour peer Lord Kennet kneed a burglar in the groin after finding him in her home.

Elizabeth Kennet, 71, confronted the man as he emerged from her study in Bayswater, west London, carrying a laptop computer. He tried to escape through what he thought was the back door, but was in fact the downstairs lavatory. It was there that she cornered him and delivered her painful blow.

Lady Kennet, who became a great-grandmother on the same day as the incident last

week, said: "My family have now given me the nickname 'have-a-go great-granny'."

She said: "We were in the garden and heard someone in the bathroom. I thought it was our lodger, so I went up in case she was looking for some aspirin or something."

"I said, 'Who are you?' and he replied, 'I'm Tom.' I said: 'Put those things down.' and he said, 'I don't want to.' I realised I could have kicked him down the stairs, but it could have broken his neck and I didn't think that was quite necessary."

"He went downstairs and

was trying to get out the back, but went into the downstairs loo instead. I then kneed him in the balls, which upset him quite considerably. I have read that is the thing to do when attacked. He was definitely surprised and presumably quite uncomfortable."

"He eventually found the right door and I followed him into the street and shouted 'Help'. People went chasing after him, so he dropped my laptop, along with a bag containing his address book. The police believe it is his, because the name in it was Tom - but they have yet to arrest anyone."



Lady Kennet presumes intruder was in pain

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American software 'threatens to ruin heritage in schools'

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

CHILDREN risk having their cultural heritage swept away by the flood of American computer software in schools, the Government's curriculum chief said yesterday.

Pupils are being asked to practise mathematics by working in dollars, dimes and cents, and to take spelling tests in American English, said Dr Nick Tate, head of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority.

The children's book market had not grown for the past seven years and 70 per cent of all books bought by parents for children were now for those aged eight or under, Dr Tate added. "Unless we consciously promote the book as being at the centre of the school curriculum, alongside the new media, we run the risk that future generations may cease to read them."

More than a hundred schools already use the SuccessMaster program in English, mathematics or science, which requires a daily 15-minute individual session at a computer screen. The mathematics program features only United States coinage in its questions, and students are coached via headphones in an American voice. Teachers say the verbal use of "bin" for "been" and "gonna" for "going to" was muddling children over spelling.

Government-sponsored research into SuccessMaster, however, showed it was very

effective in improving achievement in mathematics for 7 to 14-year-olds, the ages where there is most concern at declining standards.

Dr Tate is determined that the national curriculum, which has been in almost constant turmoil since being introduced in 1988, should not be diluted by the influx of American learning materials.

He told the City Technology Colleges Trust conference in London: "The problem is likely to continue because the cost of software development is such that nothing short of global sales will compensate."

Dr Tate added: "My worry is that expansion in the use of educational software in schools may well lead to pupils being required to use large quantities of US-oriented materials which fail to recognise this country's cultural distinctiveness." He referred to a survey of Integrated Learning Systems in 25 schools by the National Council for Educational Technology.

Francis Howlett, a program manager at the council, said: "Children using the program five days a week for six months were measured against children in the same school not on the system. Those on the system in mathematics showed a 20-month gain in achievement, although there was no significant gain in reading."

He said there were only a

small number of Americanised spellings, such as color, favor, gray and mom, and schools generally put a list of the correct spellings on the classroom wall. Mr Howlett added: "Using a different currency is perfectly valid and they can still do good work in dimes and cents."

Glenburn School in Skelmersdale, Lancashire, has piloted the SuccessMaster system in English, mathematics and science for three years. Margaret Goodwin, the coordinator, said it was generally a success but some of the Americanisms confused children.

"It is useful that they learn how different countries use language in a different way. It is not a panacea. Some students like it and others do not. Some students may like praise from a human being, while others like being told 'Good job!' by an American voice at the end of the lesson."

Leading article, page 19



Ida Lambert, 96, remembers how it used to be. Her job as church organist has been taken by a computer chip that can play *Abide with Me*

Computer sounds Last Post for church organ

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A COMPUTER chip has replaced a 96-year-old church organist in the job she has done for 65 years.

The church of St Oswald's in the Yorkshire Dales village of East Hauxwell no longer echoes to the sound of Ida Lambert on its ancient pump organ. Instead, the electronically created tones of something suitable for a cathedral ring round the two

dozen pews of the small Norman church at the foot of Wensleydale.

The same technology has taken over at the neighbouring church of St Andrew's at Finghall, where Miss Lambert has also played for 34 years. It was devised by the Reverend Donald Tordoff, rector of the combined parishes near Leyburn in North Yorkshire, whose duties include advising the Bishop of Ripon on computer technology. Mr Tordoff, 50, a comput-

er enthusiast who has his own pages on the Internet, sought hi-tech help when Miss Lambert decided it was time to retire and no successor came forward. He transcribed 150 pieces of ecclesiastical music, from *Abide With Me* to *Lord Of The Dance*, into his IBM PC, which digitally reproduced them using the sound of a large church organ. He dubbed them on to an audio-cassette and the music now comes from speakers hidden behind

the organs in the two churches. Mr Tordoff, who plays guitar and trumpet, but not the organ, said: "Obviously the worshippers were disappointed when Miss Lambert had to step down. But now they have got used to the replacement. It is so realistic that several visitors have been fooled."

Being usurped by a silicon chip has not worried Miss Lambert. "I think it is wonderful. It sounds lovely. It is so much better than my old organ."

Book world plays down fall in titles

BY DAVID CHARTER

CHILDREN'S book publishers, written off at the dawn of radio, television and home video, are confident they will also survive the multimedia boom threatening to tempt youngsters from printed page to computer screen.

The industry in Britain has been thriving since the first work aimed at "the amusement of children" rolled off John Newbery's press in 1744.

Forecasts of impending doom yesterday from Nick Tate, head of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, were dismissed by publishers and observers. There has been a reduction in the number of titles being printed this year, but it is put down to the trade focusing on its stronger authors.

Kim Reynolds, director of the Children's Literacy Centre at the Roehampton Institute in London, said the industry was due for a shake-up. "Everyone is looking at multimedia and I think there is a pause to see what will devel-

op." However, children's publishing was vitally important for British publishers. "It is the children's lists in major publishing houses that support the adult output rather than the other way around."

She added: "Britain publishes more titles than any other country. But government cutbacks to local libraries meant the sale of hardback copies has disappeared, so the injection of money has disappeared, although the volume sold is still very great."

The number of children's titles published has risen steadily from 4,151 in 1985 to 7,072 in 1994.

Gill Evans, publishing director at Reed, said the reduction in new titles this year was due to greater scrutiny on whether a book had a potential market. She disputed Dr Tate's view that children were turning their back on books, however. "I think it is a complete nonsense. Good-quality fiction and nice picture books will survive and I do not see them being replaced by multimedia."

Ballet row head is accused of race bias

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE headmistress who refused to allow her pupils to attend a Royal Opera House production of Prokofiev's ballet *Romeo and Juliet* because it was "blatantly heterosexist" was accused of racial discrimination yesterday.

An industrial tribunal was told that Jane Brown, head of Kingsmead Primary School in Hackney, east London, received better treatment during her dispute than a Nigerian-born teacher who was suspended over allegations that he "roughly handled" infants at the school.

Matthew Otiobo, 50, alleges that Miss Brown conspired with the board of governors to get rid of him because he was black. He is demanding damages for his injured feelings. Miss Brown, 39, denies plotting to discredit Mr Otiobo and says she was concerned about his ability to control his class.

Miss Brown has had an offer to become a schools inspector withdrawn tempo-

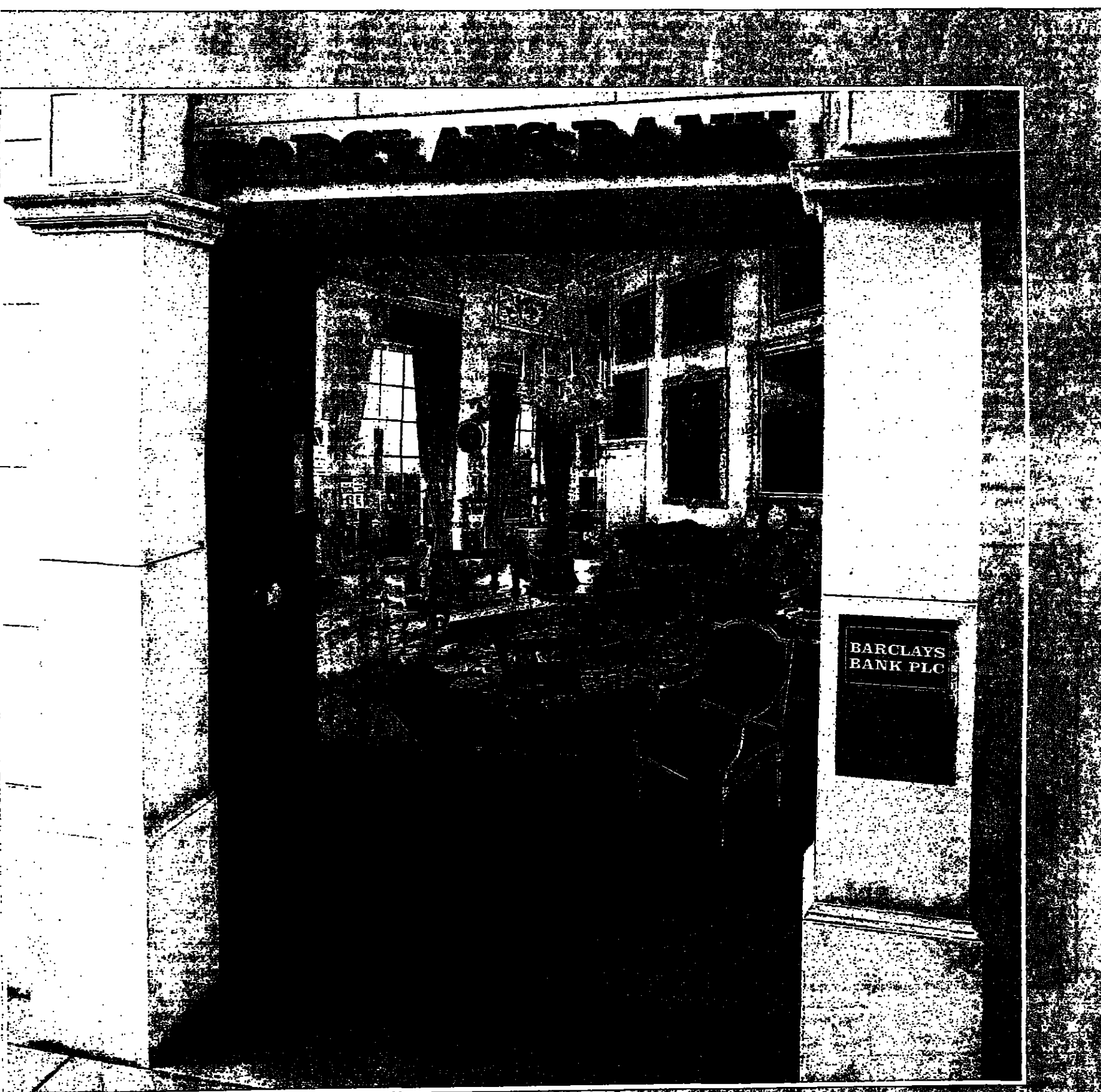


Brown: denies plotting to discredit teacher

rarily because of her involvement in the case, which is being heard at Stratford, east London.

Mr Otiobo began working there in January 1993 and was suspended for seven months the following November. The local education authority subsequently said that he should be reinstated after the allegations against him were disproved. He resumed teaching at the school in September 1994 and is still there.

Pat Griffin, chairwoman of the school's board of governors, rejected the suggestion that Mr Otiobo had not received the justice to which he was entitled because of his race. The hearing continues.



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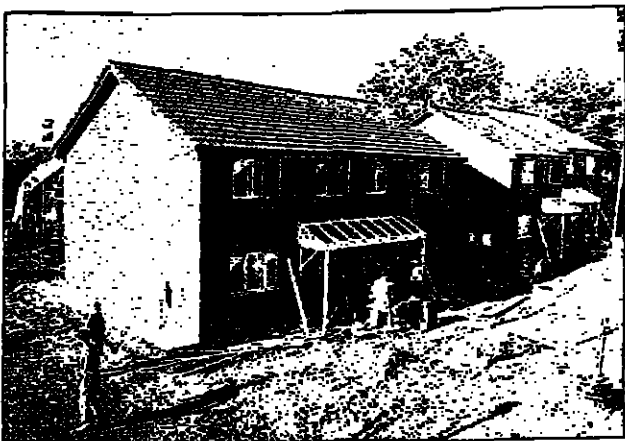
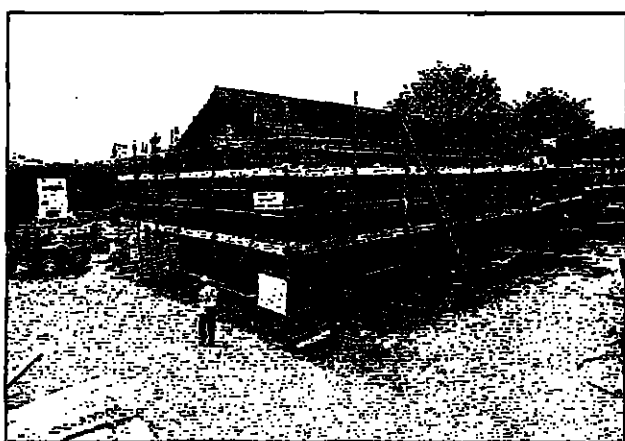
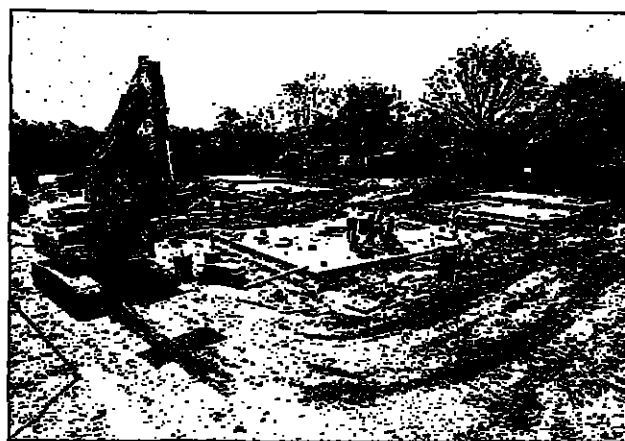
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These four pictures of a street of new houses being built in a week prove that cities can solve their housing shortages, according to council officials in Birmingham (Ian Murray writes).

Eight families moved in as the two and three-bedroom timber-frame homes were finished on time yesterday by Birmingham council and the Midland Area Housing Association. Teams of 120 men worked in shifts round the clock to finish on time. One worker completed

Eight homes a week from city in fast lane

a 36-hour shift as the klaxon sounded to mark the end of the week.

The homes are part of an estate of 37 houses being built at Bartley Green in Birmingham at a cost of £1.6 million. Although some sub-contractors agreed to work round the clock for nothing to make sure the street was completed on

time, the exercise is estimated to have added about £3,000 to the cost of each house.

It will take another 20 weeks, working normal hours, to build the remaining houses.

The council says that it would have to finish one home every 30 minutes for the

next year to house the 17,000 families on its waiting list. In addition, thousands of properties need refurbishment. There are still 4,000 households with outside toilets and half the council houses have no central heating.

The total bill for renovation and building on such a scale would be

£2 billion, but the council can afford a capital programme of only £58 million this year.

If the city were able to spend its receipts from the sale of council houses on building new homes, the council calculates it would be able to afford 2,250 new homes immediately and a further

300 every year, guaranteeing up to 1,000 jobs in the construction industry.

At a party on the site to celebrate completion of the street in a week, David Cowans, the city's housing director, said the project showed that, with proper funding, inner-city housing shortages could be solved.

"There is no question of the will to get people housed and we are working with the private sector and other organisations," he said.

Ministers aim to put GPs in front line of healthcare

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

A VISION of the GP surgery of the future in which patients would choose from a menu of services provided by different specialists was unveiled by ministers yesterday.

Consultants from local hospitals, nurses, therapists and pharmacists would combine with GPs to provide care from a new generation of cottage hospitals updated to meet modern needs.

The proposals, contained in a discussion document *Primary Care: The Future*, herald a fundamental change in the way GPs work. New technologies and drugs mean more care can be delivered in and near people's homes rather than in hospital, increasing the burden on GPs.

Changes to a GPs contract would allow family doctors to develop new services geared to local needs for young mothers, adolescents or the elderly. In other, mainly urban areas, salaried GPs would be employed by health authorities to look after the homeless or the mentally ill.

The changes are intended to assist the shift of care from hospital to GP surgery that has been under way for more

than a decade and to ensure a high standard of care is provided everywhere.

People with asthma and diabetes who were previously cared for by hospitals are increasingly looked after by GPs. More post-operative care is given in the surgery and there is more diagnostic testing. Community care for the mentally ill and disabled has added to the family doctor's responsibilities.

However, the shift of resources has lagged behind and morale among GPs has fallen. In some areas GP trainees have become difficult to recruit.

The report says local flexibility is the key. "Many of those involved felt that the time was right to bring about significant changes to the contracts of GPs to allow more flexibility and greater choice while retaining the traditional strengths of general practice and the services which it provides to the public."

The document canvasses the possibility of defining a set of "core" services which all GPs would provide, with extra services being negotiated locally with health authorities to

meet local needs. The definition of what would be included in core services is to be debated at the British Medical Association's annual GPs conference on Thursday.

It also proposes separate contracts for day and night duty to give GPs a further way of controlling their work. Night calls and the poor payments they attract are a big source of unhappiness among GPs and led to a confrontation with the Government last year.

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, said the launch of the document was a "very important day in the history of the NHS."

"We envisage a move to a more varied system of contracting for general medical services. We want to encourage the movement from a single contract into a world where the people working in this field have the opportunity to develop their ideas. Let a thousand flowers bloom."

The proposals, based on a six-month "listening exercise" of professional opinion by Gerald Malone, the junior Health Minister, will be followed in the autumn by a

further document setting out an agenda for change.

Mr Dorrell pledged that changes would be tested in voluntary pilot schemes to ensure that they commanded professional support. The health service had already undergone upheavals and there was a need to get away from the "big bang" approach and move towards evolutionary change.

Harriet Harman, the Shadow Health Secretary, accused the Government of failing to deal with the problems of low morale and poor recruitment to general practice. "It is too late for Stephen Dorrell to say he's going to listen to GPs. After years of being ignored, most simply won't believe him," she said.

The British Medical Association welcomed the document but said that any changes should be properly planned and resourced. Dr Ian Bogle, chairman of the association's GPs committee, said that concerns about recruitment, manpower and workload would need to be resolved before Mr Dorrell's wish to see an extension of disciplines working together could be achieved.



Sir Roger: wants funds to come from lottery

Bannister calls for £10m sport bursaries

By JOHN GOODBODY

BRITISH university students will receive lottery money for sports scholarships if plans by a government-sponsored working party are approved.

Sir Roger Bannister, who chaired the working party on sports scholarships, has proposed an average of £5,000 annually for each student. He has recommended in a report published today that £10 million of lottery money could be used every year to fund about 2,000 bursaries. This is about 40 times the money now available for scholarships through individual universities and sponsors.

Iain Sproat, the Sports Minister, said yesterday: "A number of universities already have established systems of sports scholarships, but I want to see more scholarships to help our top athletes."

Sir Roger added: "For a once great sporting nation, our current international performance sometimes disappoints. In Britain today we must adopt a more methodical and far-seeing approach if we wish to succeed."

"Of course, it is impossible to legislate for sporting genius but we can use a simple formula for success. Select from a wide pool of talent at an early age, add the financial means to provide facilities, coaching and competition and, inevitably, high-level sport will flourish, though Olympic gold medals can never be guaranteed."

He said that, by 2000, half the British Olympic team was expected to be, or have been, in higher education. "So we should plan now."

The Government is now allowing the national Sports Councils to use lottery money for revenue as well as capital purposes, paving the way for athletes to receive financial assistance. The English Sports Council said: "This is an area we find tremendously exciting. We would now like to see the detailed proposals."

'Scratchcard' 550 years old

A YELLOWING piece of parchment found behind the panelled wall of a 15th-century cottage near Ottery St Mary, Devon, could be the world's earliest known "scratchcard".

The authenticity of the 10in by 8in document, written in German and believed to date from 1452, is being researched with the help of the British Library. Simon Poulter, whose firm is handling the research, said it could be worth hundreds of thousands of pounds.

The parchment, known as an incunabula, features three illuminated characters side by side and a text promising the winner a monetary prize. Mr Poulter said it was believed to be an indulgence sold by the Church to guilty Christians seeking forgiveness for their sins.

Euro court backs legal aid for fine defaulters

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of people at risk of jail for defaulting on their fines will be able to claim legal aid after a ruling by the European Court of Human Rights yesterday.

The Government could face a big rise in the legal aid bill after Stephen Benham, who had been imprisoned for 12 days for failing to pay his poll tax, won his claim that his human rights were breached because he had been refused legal aid for his defence. The Strasbourg judges said Mr Benham's rights to a fair trial were breached because he was refused legal aid, even though he faced imprisonment.

The ruling means that thousands of people brought before magistrates every year for fine default and at risk of being jailed for up to three months can now claim legal aid. At present most of them are unrepresented or have not had adequate legal advice.

Lawyers for Mr Benham said the Government would have to change legal aid rules. John Wadham, director of Liberty, which backed Mr Benham's case, said: "People who face imprisonment now have a right to be represented by lawyers. The availability of legal aid in such cases in the future should reduce the number of people wrongly imprisoned by magistrates."

He said the ruling extended beyond people who have failed to pay their local taxes, to those in default on maintenance payments or on fines for minor road traffic penalties, railway or bus offences and some social security offences.

Ben Emmerson, counsel for Mr Benham, said: "The Government will face a big bill. But in many of the these cases, the fine defaulter should

never have been imprisoned in the first place — and would not have been, had they been properly legally represented."

The Lord Chancellor's Department said it would study the ruling to see if a change in the rules was needed.

New guidelines were recently issued to magistrates, telling them not to jail poll or council tax debtors. The number jailed rose from 169 in 1992, the first year the tax was applied in England and Wales, to more than 1,200 last year. However, many people are jailed for non-payment of other fines which, the court said yesterday, may not be seen as "criminal" in nature but are to be treated as such because the penalty is potentially severe.

In 1995, 20,742 people were jailed for not paying fines, and some 1,400 for default on council tax.

Mr Benham, 29, had been jailed for 30 days by magistrates at Poole, Dorset, for failing to pay his £355 poll tax bill. He argued that he mostly

lived in a car or a tent as part of an alternative way of life and was not liable to pay.

The magistrates ruled that Mr Benham's failure to pay amounted to "culpable neglect" as, with nine O levels, he clearly had earning ability.

He was bailed after 11 days in jail, however, and a High Court appeal subsequently declared that the magistrates had acted unreasonably.

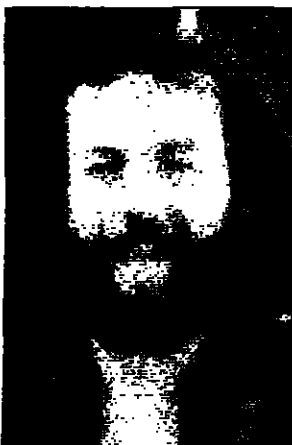
Mr Benham lost his claim for compensation yesterday. The court's rejection of that claim may have saved the Government another huge sum when about 20 other poll tax cases reach the court.

Mr Benham had worked in a bank after leaving school but gave up the job to try to live without an income. He objected when he was landed with a full poll tax bill despite spending less than 30 days in his parents' house in the course of a year. The rest of the time, he lived in a car and a tent.

The Strasbourg judges said that the magistrates who had jailed Mr Benham could have done so only if they decided that his failure to pay the poll tax was due to his "wilful refusal" or "culpable neglect". The fact that the High Court later found there was insufficient evidence to blame Mr Benham for his inability to pay did not necessarily mean it had been unlawful to jail him.

The judges did not agree that the magistrates had made a grave error and therefore did not find that the prison sentence against Mr Benham was invalid.

But, on the question of legal aid, they considered that "where deprivation of liberty was at stake, the interests of justice in principle call for legal representation".



Benham: jailed for not paying poll tax

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RAF seeks bomb to destroy tanks but keep the peace

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

RAF chiefs are considering developing a special peace-keeping bomb that could be used in an operation "short of war" to knock out a tank without harming nearby civilians.

One idea is to have a laser-guided bomb that could be launched without an explosive warhead to send a signal rather than cause death and destruction. Another is to have a bomb that can be switched off after launch.

The "peace-support bomb" is one of a number of concepts devised by the RAF's operational requirements department. RAF chiefs believe there is a gap in the weapons inventory which has been highlighted by the experience of Nato pilots flying bombing missions over Bosnia-Herzegovina.

One senior RAF official said yesterday that the aim of the peace-support bomb would be to inflict "zero collateral damage". One of the challenges

facing Nato pilots was to avoid causing damage to property or deaths among civilians when attacking tanks, armoured personnel carriers or a radar installation, especially in or near urban areas.

The RAF official said: "If you have a tank firing from a confined space next to a hospital, there is always the risk of collateral damage. So one idea is to have a bomb that will be accurate but will not cause a lot of damage."

Another idea is to have a bomb or missile which will have a switch-off capability, allowing for a change of mind after the weapon has been launched. This would enable Nato or United Nations commanders to disarm a missile in flight when the perceived threat from a warring party suddenly vanished.

The RAF is now in the process of ordering a new range of weapon systems for the next 15 years which take into account the lessons learnt

from both Bosnia and the Gulf War of 1991.

The main lesson was the imperative of developing "smart" precision-guided missiles to replace the inventory of "dumb" (unguided) bombs because of the need to restrict collateral damage.

After the Gulf War, the RAF decided to buy a number of new missile systems, including a conventionally armed stand-off missile (Casom) which could be launched at least 100 miles from the target and be capable of penetrating heavily fortified bunkers.

Seven consortiums have put in bids and a decision is expected in the next few weeks. Yesterday McDonnell Douglas, the American defence company, which has teamed up with GEC-Marconi, Hunting Engineering and Lucas Aerospace to offer its Grand Slam missile, announced that it had redesigned the weapon to give it longer range, believed to be 200-300 miles.



A painting depicting Sir Charles, centre, saving the life of his wounded brother Hugh, bottom right. The portrait shows him wearing his medals

Family sells VC won in Indian Mutiny

By JOHN SHAW

A VICTORIA CROSS won by General Sir Charles Gough for four separate acts of bravery during the Indian Mutiny in 1857-58 is expected to sell for about £38,000 at auction next month.

The Gough family is unique in that three of its members were awarded VCs.

Sir Charles, his son and his younger brother. The group of six decorations — Sir Charles's VC and his campaign medals — is being sold by a branch of the family at Spink, the specialist medal auctioneers in St James's, central London, on July 16.

The Goughs, from Clonmel, Co Tipperary, were among those families who brought a

vigorous Irish spirit to the British Army. Sir Charles was 16 when he first went out to India. Field Marshal Viscount Gough, his great uncle, was Commander-in-Chief.

The teenager was commissioned cornet in the 8th Bengal Cavalry. He took part in the Punjab Campaign of 1848-49 and on the outbreak of the Mutiny his unit was directed

to join the main army for the advance on Delhi.

All four incidents were in the Delhi, Lucknow and Cawnpore area. The first, according to the citation in the *London Gazette*, was for "gallantry in an affair at Khurkondah near Rohltuck on August 15, 1857".

Sir Charles saved his brother, who was wounded and on the ground. A painting recording the incident hangs in the National Army Museum in Chelsea. Three days later he led a charge of the Guide Cavalry and cut down two of the enemy's sowars [native cavalrymen] with one of whom he had a desperate hand-to-hand combat.

In another charge five months later, he pierced one of the enemy's leaders with a sword thrust so that the

weapon "was carried out of his hand in the mêlée. He defended himself with a revolver and shot two of the enemy". In the fourth incident, Sir Charles saved Brevet Major O.H. St. George Anson and killed his opponent, "immediately cutting down another of the enemy in the same gallant manner".

Sir Charles and his brother Hugh became recognised as two of the most brilliant of the younger generation of cavalry leaders. Lieutenant Hugh Gough won a VC during the Mutiny and Sir Charles's son, Captain Brevet Major J.E. Gough, won a similar honour in Somaliland in 1903.

John Hayward, a medals consultant at Spink, a part of Christie's, said: "We expect an enormous amount of interest."

Broker accused of Gulf War fraud

By A STAFF REPORTER

A SHIPPING broker tricked the Ministry of Defence out of a fortune after he was asked to help Britain's Gulf War effort, a court was told yesterday.

William Layzell-Smith allegedly hid the true cost of hiring a ferry to take supplies to the Gulf. Then, after the allied victory, the 58-year-old company director repeated the fraud a further three times as equipment was ferried back to Britain.

By the end of the eight-month swindle, his firm and a Danish businessman had pocketed £1.75 million of taxpayers' money. Southwark Crown Court was told. Layzell-Smith, of Woodford, east London, later told police: "There's nothing wrong in making a profit." He denies one charge of fraudulent trading between November 1990 and July 1991.

Michael Worsley, QC, for the prosecution, said the Gov-

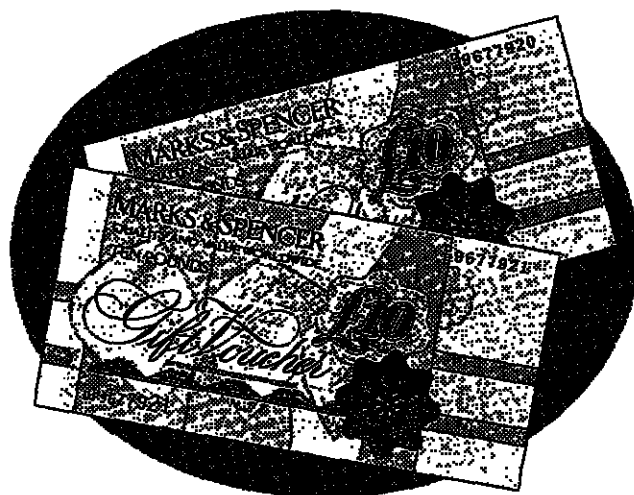
ernment contacted shipping agents through the Baltic Exchange for help to charter large roll-on, roll-off vessels to transport some of the equipment needed to help to defeat President Saddam Hussein. Layzell-Smith, director of J.C. and Sons (London), and Jorgen Odgaard, who ran a one-man operation from Holland, were among those asked to find the necessary ships and negotiate with their owners.

Mr Worsley said that on four occasions Mr Layzell-Smith and Mr Odgaard pretended to act as middlemen, earning nothing more than the usual commission from shipping lines. But the vessels were hired from the operators for much less than the "enormous sum" the Ministry of Defence handed over.

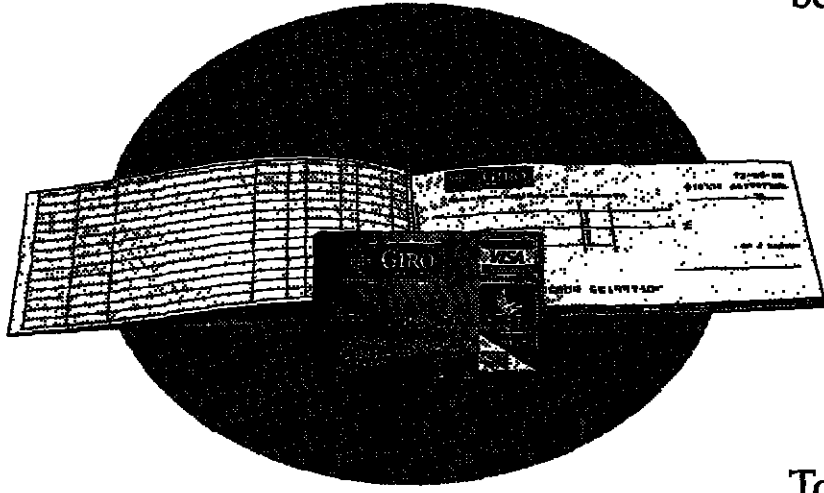
Interviewed by police, Mr Layzell-Smith insisted he had done nothing wrong. The trial continues.

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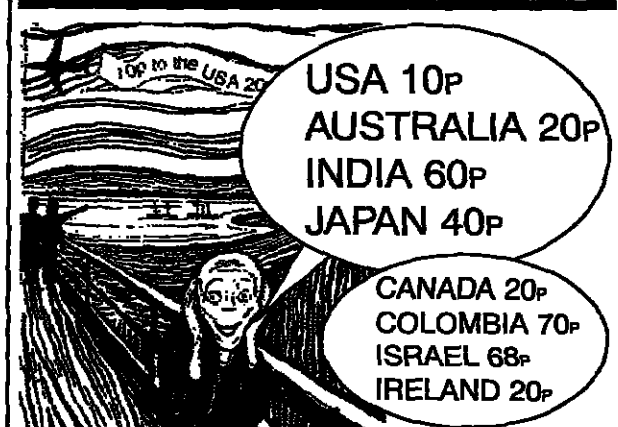
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Boasts of miracle health foods put to test

BY ROBIN YOUNG

DIETING can damage your health, according to this month's issue of *Health Which?*, published today.

The Consumers' Association publication says that there is no evidence for claims that special foods and supplements can increase brain power, but adds that the psychological stress and mental pre-occupation involved in weight-watching can cause poorer performance in memory tests, make reactions slower and shorten attention spans.

Only children with abnormal deficiencies in vitamins and minerals would benefit from vitamin supplements, the magazine says, and claims that individual foods, supplements and diets will increase brain power are dismissed as "at best exaggeration, and at worst wishful thinking."

"Plain old caffeine" is the "magic" ingredient in guarana, the Amazonian wonder-treatment promoted as a natural stimulant, *Health Which?* says. Spirulina, a blue-green algae, is claimed to be a source of amino acids that enhance brain activity but the magazine says the same can be got from any protein food.

Fish is a healthy food but it will not make adults brighter, though a fat found in fish oil (DHA) may be linked with brain development in infancy.

The magazine suggests that the two nutrients strongly linked to brain function are Vitamin B1 (thiamine), deficiency of which can lower mental capacity, and iron, which is crucial while the brain develops in infancy.

Spinach, kidney beans and wholemeal bread are suggested as sources of iron. Brazil nuts, brown rice and wholemeal pasta of vitamin B1.

□ In a survey on orange juice *Health Which?* found that long-life varieties had significantly less vitamin C than juices home squeezed, "freshly squeezed", or squeezed in Florida, while home-made juices contained much less sugar than shop-bought varieties.

Despite their healthy image, fruit juices were more acidic than other soft drinks and could cause dental erosion.

Litigious tourists force up cost of package holidays

BY FRANCES GIBBS
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE travel industry is facing a huge rise in claims for compensation as holidaymakers pursue increasingly far-fetched legal actions.

In a trend that will force up the cost of package holidays, tour operators are starting to feel the impact of a change in the law brought about by an EC directive on package holidays in 1991. The European directive makes them liable for every part of a holiday, from excursions to illness, and not just the travel and accommodation arrangements.

Claims are estimated to be up by 50 per cent since 1992. People are suing over any mishap, such as falling out of a safari vehicle or the failure of a tour operator to warn them that an area was dangerous.

Tim Oliver, a partner with the City solicitors Berryman, which acts for Thomson, the biggest tour operator, said: "The rise in claims has been phenomenal. Partly it's that people are more aware of their rights. But also it's that tour operators can now be held responsible for every part of the holiday - from the faulty tiles at a hotel which someone slips on, to an injury someone incurs on an excursion."

Before the EC directive people had to pursue claims against the hotel or local excursion organiser. "Now, provided they can show the tour operator has been negligent, they can sue in this country. And very often they can get legal aid to do so."

He said that when acting for Intasun before it ceased trading, there might be "perhaps five claims a year that went to litigation. Now, with Thomson, there are some 50 to 75 a year going to litigation."

Another factor was that the insurance offered with many holidays increasingly contained legal expenses insurance. "So if, for some reason, a claim can't be brought against the tour operator, because the claim arose away from the hotel when the holidaymaker went off on his own, you might

CAUSES FOR COMPLAINT		
Type of complaint	1994	1995
Accident	122	141
Accommodation overbooked	457	239
Disability/special needs	29	38
Flight overbooked/delayed	185	258
Food	30	41
General dissatisfaction	8,703	11,361
Illness	139	182
Insurance query/problem	76	109
Poor apartment/hotel	3,024	2,870
Poor rep/courier	38	37
Pre-departure change (flight, hotel)	541	614
Square deal/last-minute holiday	557	472

The total of written complaints to Abta rose from 14,931 in 1994 to 17,450 in 1995, a rise of nearly 17 per cent.

still go to your legal expenses insurer and they will arrange for you to claim."

In one case this year a couple visited Durban, where they stayed in a four-star hotel. They went for a stroll and were mugged.

Mr Oliver said: "They are saying that the travel agent should have warned them of the danger of visiting South Africa. If you start saying that travel agents have a duty to warn people of every possible incident, you could not in all honesty let anyone go anywhere."

In another recent case, a young girl who had been drinking heavily wandered down the metal steps into a swimming pool and gashed her thigh. Unusually, she failed in her claim that the tour operator ought to have known the steps were faulty. "We offered £10,000, which she turned down. She took the case to court and then lost. But that is very, very rare."

The surge in claims is forcing tour operators to take on more staff to check all the constituent parts of their holidays. "The extra monitoring will inevitably mean holidays becoming more expensive," Mr Oliver added.

Martin Brackenbury, chairman of the Federation of Tour Operators, representing 90 per cent of the industry, said: "We are extremely concerned. Our view is that the agenda of consumers has changed: before, they expected the organisers to know best. Now, they are the 'informed consumer' and expect information at an astonishing level of detail."

Father claims £1.5m for pool accident

BY FRANCES GIBBS

A HOLIDAYMAKER left in a persistent vegetative state after an accident in a hotel swimming pool is suing for £1.5 million in what is believed to be the biggest claim against the travel industry.

David Jones, a builder of Pontypool, Torfaen, got into difficulties with his wife and two children when swimming at Tenerife in 1990. It was eight minutes before he was seen and pulled out, since when he has not recovered consciousness. The claim is

against the International Leisure Group, which was operating there as Intasun.

Mr Jones's claim is based on the alleged failure of the hotel to keep the pool water sufficiently clear, preventing his being noticed earlier. Gareth Edwards, his solicitor, said: "This tragic incident shows the importance of holiday facilities being kept up to standard."

Swimming pools can become cloudy if polluted with suntan oil. The International Leisure Group denies negligence. The case is likely to go to trial in the autumn.



Tracey, left, and Rachel Heald were harassed by hotel staff in Tunisia

Women sued tour operator over remarks by waiters

BY KATHARINE ROAD

THE first signs that the EC directive would lead to unusual and unexpected claims came last year when two women claimed against their tour operators because the Tunisian waiters in their hotel had made suggestive remarks. They complained of sexual harassment and, in June 1995, received £3,000 between them.

Tracey Heald, then 33, and her niece Rachel, 21, decided to sue Thomson, their tour

operator, for the distress caused by the holiday when Tracey Heald was prescribed anti-depressants upon their return.

Thomson said that, while it was sorry about what had happened, it was not possible to show that Ms Heald's illness had been caused by the holiday.

"That was when I got angry," Ms Heald said. "Thomson had a duty to make sure that the hotel they were putting us in was safe." The two women decided to take

the tour operator to court. Thomson did not deny that harassment had occurred. The judge was convinced by the assessments from Ms Heald's doctor, and by a psychologist, that most women would have experienced psychological trauma from the treatment they had received.

"They had to accept responsibility and I knew that only a court could make them," Ms Heald said. "We've set a precedent, and every travel company is answerable."

Open jails to be cut after more inmates abscond

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

SIX prisons holding more than 1,000 inmates are threatened with closure in the most far-reaching overhaul of open prisons since they were introduced more than 60 years ago.

The number of open jails, which hold low-risk offenders and long-term inmates reaching the end of their sentences, would be cut from 22 to six. Three would be turned into resettlement prisons for those approaching the end of long sentences and the rest would become minimum-security jails surrounded by a perimeter fence for short-sentence offenders. Open prisons for young offenders would be abolished.

The Prison Service proposals are prompted by more people absconding from open jails, a rise in prisoners convicted of serious offences and fewer inmates considered suitable for open conditions.

The recommended closures, which need ministerial approval, would be phased in over four years. Two of the service's finer premises are included: Hewell Grange, Hereford and Worcester, a mansion with a 24-acre lake and 105 acres of woodland, and East Sutton Park, Kent, a women's jail in a Grade II listed Elizabethan manor.

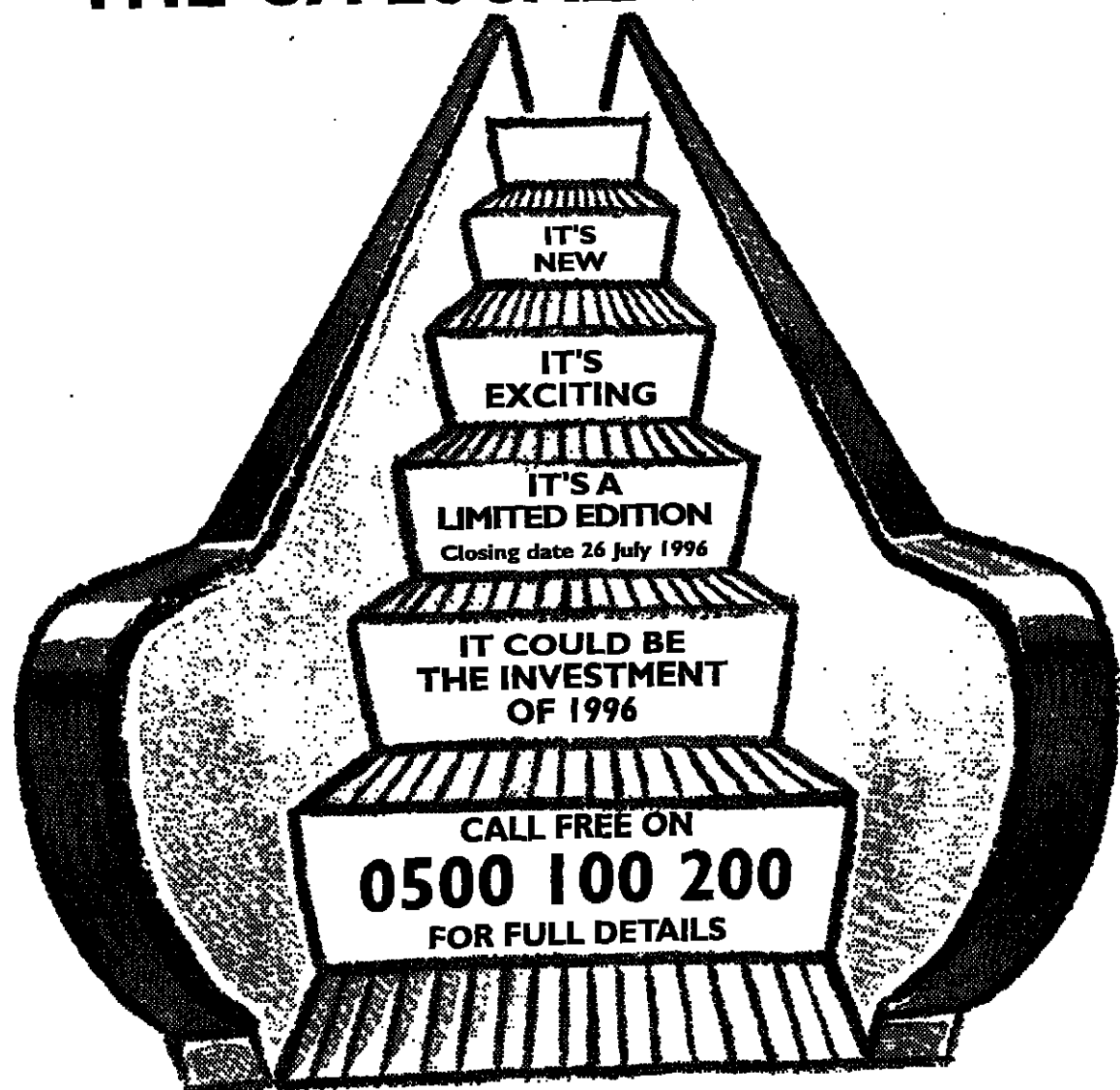
Harry Fletcher of the National Association of Probation Officers said: "A radical overhaul was inevitable, given cutbacks and the curtailment of home leave."

The open prisons left would be Leyhill, Gloucestershire; Sudbury, Derbyshire; Standford Hill, Kent; Ford, West Sussex; Hollesley Bay, Suffolk; and Morton Hall, Lincolnshire.

□ The Prison Service was urged last night to reconsider removing some black-and-white television sets at Wormwood Scrubs, west London.

The jail's Board of Visitors said it was "very concerned". The battery-operated sets, bought by inmates, reduce the likelihood of suicide and self-harm, enabling prisoners to remain in touch with the society to which they will return.

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SECOND-HAND TOBACCO SMOKE IN PERSPECTIVE

Life is full of risks. But they're not all equal.

Almost every day, it seems that one thing or another has been discovered to be some kind of health risk.

In one scientific study, even the ordinary biscuit was linked to heart disease.

But as common sense suggests (and scientists confirm) not everything described statistically as a risk is a meaningful risk.

For example, lots of people have been persuaded that second-hand tobacco smoke is harmful.

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After all, we recognise that smoking itself is a risk factor for certain human diseases and that some people find second-hand tobacco smoke unappealing and unpleasant.

But what about second-hand tobacco smoke? Is it really a meaningful health risk to people who've chosen not to smoke?

Not, we think, if you look at the evidence.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency recently conducted a major review of studies on the risks of second-hand tobacco smoke to non-smokers. These studies typically involve non-smokers living with smokers over a long period, such as 20 years.



And this review put the risk of lung cancer from second-hand tobacco smoke at a level well below the risk reported by other studies for many everyday items and activities.

And below, in fact, the risk to health that one other study reported for eating one biscuit a day.

As the table below shows, many everyday activities have been statistically associated at one time or another with apparent risks to health.

But reputable scientists say that weak associations aren't necessarily meaningful.

So there's no big campaign to persuade you to give up your daily biscuit.

Nor is there any sound justification for a campaign against second-hand tobacco smoke.

If you'd like to decide for yourself, please write to us at Philip Morris Europe S.A., c/o P.O. Box 107, 1000 AC Amsterdam, The Netherlands or fax us on 00 31 20 671 98 89.

We'll send you the evidence about second-hand smoke.

We believe you'll find the case convincing.



Everyday Activities	Reported Relative Risk*	Reported Health Effect	Scientific Study Reference
Diet highest in saturated fat	6.14	Lung cancer	Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Vol. 85, p.1906 (1993)
Non-vegetarian v vegetarian diet	3.08	Heart disease	American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, Vol. 31, p. S191 (1978)
Frequently cooking with rapeseed oil	2.80	Lung cancer	International Journal of Cancer, Vol. 40, p. 604 (1987)
Drinking 1-2 glasses of whole milk per day	1.62	Lung cancer	International Journal of Cancer, Vol. 43, p. 608 (1989)
Eating one biscuit a day	1.49	Heart disease	Lancet, Vol. 341, p. 581 (1993)
Drinking chlorinated water	1.38	Rectal cancer	American Journal of Public Health, Vol. 82, p. 955 (1992)
Eating pepper frequently	1.30	Mortality	American Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 119, p. 775 (1984)
Exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke	1.19	Lung cancer	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1992)
High vegetable diet	0.37	Lung cancer	International Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 25, Suppl. 1, p. 32 (1996)
High fruit diet	0.31	Lung cancer	American Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 133, p. 683 (1991)

*Relative risk measures how much consuming, or being exposed to something, raises or lowers risk.

Philip Morris Europe S.A.

Second-hand tobacco smoke. Let's keep a sense of perspective.

هكذا من الأصل

Yeltsin strikes chord with the young at Red Square concert

FROM BRONWYN DONNE IN MOSCOW

A WALL of loud-speakers boomed "Vote Next Sunday" as about 30,000 youngsters rocked at a pop concert sponsored by President Yeltsin's election campaign aimed at appealing to the youth vote.

The crowd in Red Square, many wearing T-shirts reading "Yeltsin Number One", responded to the appeal with cheers and whistles. The 65-year-old Kremlin leader may not look like a pop icon, but with less than a week to go before the presidential election, he is emerging as the most popular candidate among young people.

Masha, 20, a student of English literature at Moscow State University, was typical of many at the event. "I don't particularly like Yeltsin," she said. "He's made a lot of mistakes. No-one can forgive him for [the war in] Chechnya. But who else is there?" She added: "God knows what would happen if the Communists get in. Who's to say they won't start building gulags again?" Yuri, 19, a conscript just back from the conflict in Chechnya and on military duty in Red Square, said: "I'm voting for demobilisation. For Yeltsin. Let him finish what he started."

Their endorsements were in large part the result of an intense pro-Yeltsin campaign, styled as "Vote or Lose", which has attempted to sway the youth vote by instilling a mixture of fun and fear. A daily, prime-time pop-music



television programme tries to give the election a shade of street-credibility by featuring Dima, a hip young presenter, interviewing teenage pop stars and club-goers about why they are going to vote for Mr Yeltsin. His re-election campaign has also exploited the violence and repressive nature of Communist rule, showing graphic footage of Bolshevik-era executions and revolutionary mobs pulling down churches.

The campaigns of the other candidates have been unable to match the Kremlin's pursuit of the youth vote, including that of Grigori Yavlinsky, the young and charismatic liberal leader whose Yabloko party clinched most of the youth vote in last December's parliamentary polls.

The Communists have abandoned any hope of winning over the young. "Our manifesto is enough on its own. We do not need to waste



President Yeltsin dons a local hat at a festival in Arsk, nearly 40 miles from the Tartar capital Kazan, as he continued his hectic campaigning across Russia

money on American-style electioneering," said Irina Niyudovaya, 27, the deputy leader of Komsomol, the Communist Youth League which once boasted millions of members. Now, the organisation has shrunk to 15,000 supporters and seems destined to remain in obscurity, judging by its dismal attempt to entice young people to a weekend cultural concert in

Moscow. More than three hours of speeches, poetry recitals and folk singing was insufficient to attract Russian youth, who appeared to be outnumbered 10-1 by pensioners in the audience.

Despite the battle for the youth vote, it will be the elderly who may yet have the last word in the election. Young voters, who account for only 13 per cent of the

electorate, are notoriously less reliable than their grandparents about voting.

"Young people are very indifferent. They go to the concerts but they are not interested in politics," said Vladimir Kovlensky, a journalist on the daily *Moskovsky Komsomolets* newspaper. It reported that only 40 per cent of young people voted in last December's polls. He asked:

"If we don't vote now, who's to say when we'll get another chance?"

Back at the Red Square concert, his fears appeared to be well justified as the pro-Yeltsin message was drowned out by the music. "I'm here to watch *Akademia* play," admitted Natasha, 19, an art student, straining over the heads of the crowd to catch a glimpse of the rock band. "I

don't really know who I'm going to vote for," she said.

Ten candidates. A hardline presidential candidate, Aman Tulayev, pulled out of the race yesterday and threw his support behind Gennadi Zyuganov, the main Communist contender. "The bloc of popular patriotic forces must have one candidate," he said. His withdrawal leaves ten candidates on the ballot. (AP)

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M02415NG

Greece hardens stance on Aegean

FROM JOHN CARR IN ATHENS

GREECE toughened its stand towards Turkey yesterday, accusing Ankara of fabricating new tensions between the two countries and warning of possible military retaliation.

Costas Simitis, the Prime Minister, appeared on national television after meeting the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence, and senior military and intelligence officials, to deliver his strongest warning in six months of verbal duelling over Greek sovereignty in the Aegean.

"Turkey is constantly fabricating new tensions in a strategy that can only lead to deadlock," Mr Simitis said. "We are determined to resist this by all means possible, and our armed forces are at full readiness."

It was unclear how much of his bellicosity was motivated by politics. Later this month Mr Simitis faces a crucial election in his own Socialist Party, of which he hopes to become the formal head. Opposing him is a powerful populist faction which blames him for weakness towards Turkey, the traditional foe.

Last week Greek public anger flared when Ankara claimed that Gavdhos, a small island south of Crete, was "disputed territory". Home to about 100 fishermen, Gavdhos is hundreds of miles from the nearest Turkish land.

Most Greek analysts remain convinced that Turkey could be intending to roll back Greece's sovereignty in the island-studded Aegean. Turkish diplomats readily admit that Turks feel hemmed in by the string of large ethnically-Greek islands hugging the Turkish west coast.

Independent sources say the Turkish military could be trying to seize foreign initiatives as the political establishment is preoccupied with finding a new prime minister. **Weapons decision:** Greece said it would take a decision soon on ordering new weapons and would continue to block European Union funds for Ankara. Official sources said the weapons would include fighter aircraft. (Reuters)

Man dies in soup poisoning

BUDAPEST An 80-year-old man became the first to die in Hungary's worst food poisoning outbreak which has made 4,000 people ill, nearly 500 of whom needed hospital treatment. They all ate cold strawberry soup delivered to pensioners' homes, workplaces, schools and kindergartens, and suffered high fever, diarrhoea and vomiting.

The director of a children's hospital said many children are still in a serious but not critical condition because of dehydration. (AP)

Basque leader wins bail

MADRID Jon Idigoras, a Basque leader and Spanish parliamentary deputy, was freed on bail after being held for four months, suspected of being involved with an armed group. Two other members of Herri Batasuna, Eta's political wing, were arrested over their claims that riot police killed a woman with a rubber bullet. (AP)

Saint restored

VALLETTA The Beheading of St John by Michelangelo Merisi de Caravaggio has left Malta for restoration in Florence. The painting is Caravaggio's largest canvas and the only known work he signed - in the blood from St John's neck. (Reuters)

Princess to wed

BUCHAREST Princess Margareta, the eldest daughter of exiled King Michael of Romania, is to marry a Romanian actor. The princess, who was born in Switzerland where the royal family now lives, will marry Radu Duda in Lausanne in September. (AP)

Royal change

MADRID: Simoneta Gómez-Acebo y Borbón, the niece of King Juan Carlos, made advertising history as the first member of the Spanish royal family to appear in a commercial. She was promoting a new nappy, and will give her earnings to charity.

Europe sees growth in sex-slave trade

FROM REUTERS IN VIENNA

A HARROWING tale of a Polish mother of four, forced into prostitution in Germany after falling for promises of a good life in the West, was told at a conference yesterday.

Anita Gradin, European Justice Commissioner, said the unemployed woman, 30, was told by a businessman he could get her well-paid work as a waitress. Instead she was raped and blackmailed.

The Commissioner, who was chairing the European Commission's two-day conference on trafficking in women, said the woman was an example of a growing slave trade in Europe and represented thousands in a similar situation. "No country is completely free of trade in women... They are driven away by poor condi-

tions in their home country and forced into a deplorable life."

The European Union estimates that there are between 200,000 and 500,000 women living outside their countries as prostitutes, mostly victims of gangs. In many countries, foreign prostitutes far outnumber their national counterparts.

Ms Gradin, who said trafficking in women had surged over the past five years, called for tougher penalties and said trafficking in women was less risky than smuggling drugs. Representatives from 15 EU governments were participating, with delegates from EU aspirants in Eastern Europe, Cyprus, Malta, America, Canada and the United Nations.

هكذا من الأصل

Olivetti chief fails in bid to overturn fraud conviction

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

CARLO DE BENEDETTI, chairman of Olivetti and one of Italy's best known buccaneering business tycoons, was yesterday sentenced to four-and-a-half years in prison by the Court of Appeal for his part in the collapse of Banco Ambrosiano 14 years ago.

Fifteen others were also convicted, including Licio Gelli, grandmaster of the shadowy P2 masonic lodge, which allegedly lay behind many establishment scandals before being uncovered in 1981. Gelli was sentenced to 12 years in jail.

De Benedetti, like other leading businessmen, was caught up in anti-corruption investigations launched in 1992 by Milan magistrates and dubbed the Clean Hands (Mani Pulite) campaign. As it gathered pace, he went to the magistrates before they came to him, admitting voluntarily that his company had paid bribes to secure contracts and

had illicitly financed the discredited Christian Democrats, all but wiped out by the 1992 upheaval. He presented himself as a victim of extortion, obliged by the system to pay bribes to stay in business.

Several of these alleged bribes are still being investigated. But De Benedetti was convicted in 1992 on one count

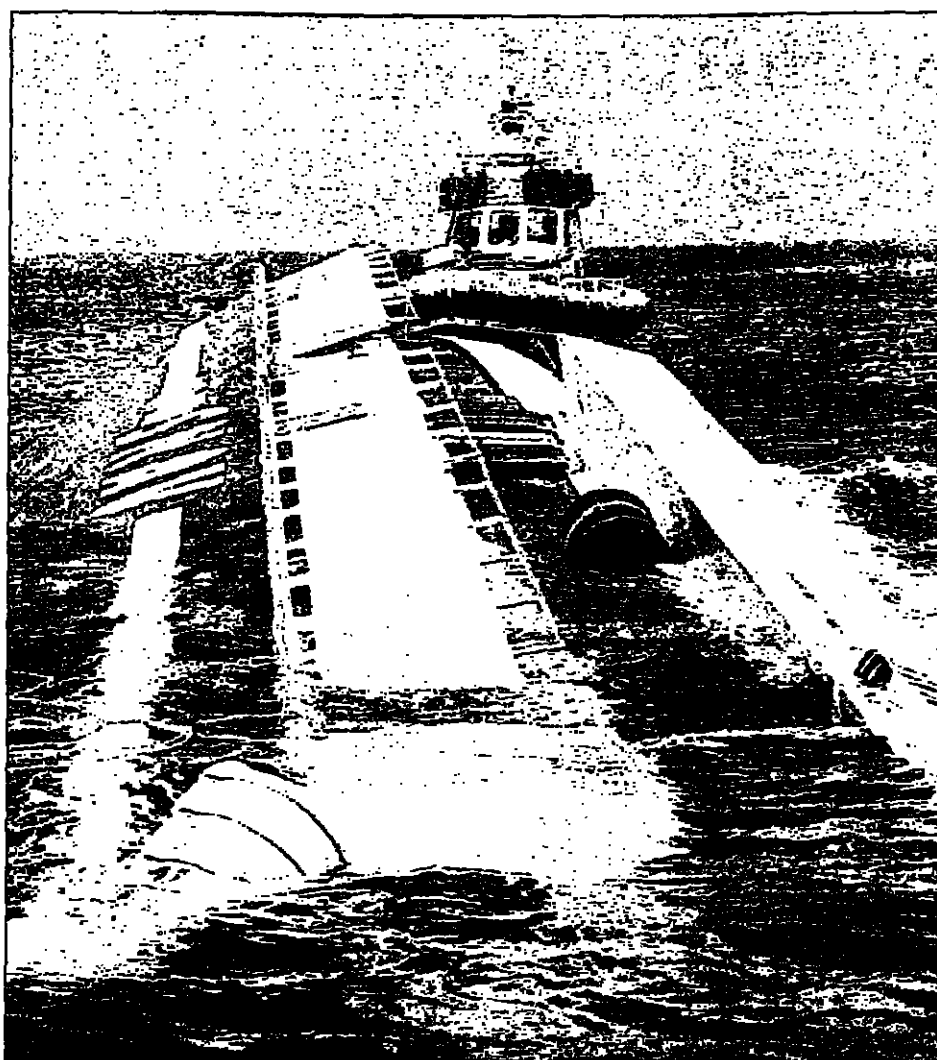
— complicity in the Banco Ambrosiano scandal — and given a sentence of six years and four months. The Appeal Court reduced the sentence but upheld the conviction. His lawyers said he would appeal to the supreme court.

De Benedetti has been haunted for years by the fall of the Banco Ambrosiano, of which he was vice-president for three months, stepping down in January 1982. The bank, run by Mafia financiers with Vatican connections, collapsed with huge debts to "shell" companies set up in Panama and Liechtenstein.

De Benedetti left the bank's board six months before it folded, and claims not to have benefited from its dealings. Before leaving he sold his shares in the bank to its chairman, Roberto Calvi, who was found hanging under Blackfriars Bridge in June 1982. His death has never been satisfactorily explained.



De Benedetti involved in Ambrosiano scandal



A rescue vessel advancing towards the capsized hydrofoil which was ferrying commuters from the island of Procida when it struck rocks early yesterday

Four die as ferry hits rocks in fog off Naples

BY RICHARD OWEN

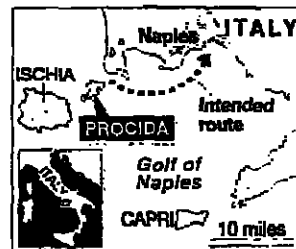
SAFETY experts yesterday began an investigation into the sinking of a hydrofoil packed with early morning commuters just off the island of Procida, near Naples.

Four elderly Italians died and scores were injured, some seriously, when the hydrofoil hit rocks at the mouth of the island harbour in fog. Survivors spoke of "moments of sheer terror" as the boat crashed and capsized.

The crew said the evacuation had been orderly, with most passengers managing to don life jackets before swimming to shore or being picked up by fishing craft which came to the rescue.

The accident has aroused anxiety among the numerous tourists who take similar hydrofoils to and from the more popular islands and coastal resorts of Naples Bay.

Although the weather was hot and the skies were clear, morning fog had not lifted when the hydrofoil left Procida for Naples just before 9 am. It was carrying 160 passengers, mostly workers in



the Naples tourist industry who commute from Procida regularly, and 15 crew plus a handful of students and tourists.

Unlike islands such as Ischia and Capri near by, Procida is a small volcanic rock formation with few tourist attractions of its own.

As divers continued to search the shallow waters around the harbour for further victims, the authorities said the hydrofoil had been picking up speed as it moved out of Procida harbour, and smashed against the rocks at full tilt.

The Italians who died — three women and a man, all in their sixties and seventies — were at the front of the vessel, which took the full force of the impact.

Unicef attacks silent conspiracy on childbirth toll

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A QUARTER of all women in the developing world die or are disabled by pregnancy and childbirth, according to a United Nations report.

Almost 600,000 women are killed each year by complications related to pregnancy and childbirth, about 20 per cent more than previously estimated. Unicef, the United Nations Children's Fund, says that for every woman who dies, about 30 more suffer injuries and disabilities.

Millions of women suffer rupture of the uterus, pelvic inflammatory disease, and lower genital tract injuries. Their injuries go untreated, the report says. "They are painful, humiliating and permanent. This issue, in this conspiracy of silence, is the most neglected tragedy of our times."

The risk of death during childbirth is dramatically worse in the developing world. In Britain only one woman in 5,000 dies, whereas in some of the poorest countries it is one in seven.

Almost 75,000 deaths in the developing world are caused by women attempting unsafe abortions — by drugs or violent massage or by inserting a sharp object through the

vagina into the uterus. Unicef says that 50,000 women and girls attempted such procedures every day.

Unicef says that if the toll of maternal death and injury is to be reduced, the first task is to break the silence surrounding the issue. "Families and communities must be taught to recognise the danger signs. Governments and aid programmes must be given priority to ensure that local hospitals and clinics can provide modern obstetrics care to the 15 per cent of pregnant women who need it." Little is done because the problems are considered "women's problems".

The maternal death toll is highest in the Asia-Pacific region at 818 deaths per day, with Sub-Saharan Africa following at 615 deaths daily. Unicef says that in the public imagination, Africa is the home of the malnourished child. In fact, both the number and percentage of children affected by malnutrition is far higher in South Asia, with half of all the world's malnourished children in just three Asian countries — India, Pakistan and Bangladesh where 67 per cent of children under five were malnourished.



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Today *The Times* gives you the chance to win the exciting new MGF. Simply collect six differently numbered tokens and complete the entry form published on Saturday.

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HOW TO ENTER

For your chance to win the MGF 1.8i collect six differently numbered tokens from those appearing daily in *The Times* until Saturday, June 15, 1996. (You may enter twice if you wish.) Send them with the completed entry form which appeared on Saturday to: *The Times* MG Prize Draw Competition, PO Box 8385, London, SE7 7ZL.

PRIZE DRAW CONDITIONS

The prize draw is open to all *Times* readers over 18. The winner will be chosen at random from all entries received before the closing date of June 21, 1996. The prize is not transferable. There is no cash alternative.



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*Manufacturer's recommended retail price, correct at time of going to press, is for the XJ Executive including cost of delivery, number plates, a full tank of petrol and £140 for 12 months' road fund licence. †Offer applies to Jaguar Privilege finance schemes arranged prior to 31 August 1996 and excludes forecast costs (tyres, fluid and oil top-ups). Written quotations available on request from Jaguar Financial Services Limited, Telford Place, Great Cambridge Road, Telford, Shropshire, Sh. EN10 6NH. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status of over 18 year olds only.

Hezbollah ambush kills 5 Israelis

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S Likud Government, still to be formed after the recent elections, faced its first security crisis yesterday after five Israeli soldiers were killed in an ambush in occupied southern Lebanon by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah.

News of the attack, the most serious in the region since the end of Operation Grapes of Wrath, came as Israelis were mourning the death of two Jews killed on Sunday by Arab gunmen inside the borders of Israel proper, about 20 miles from Jerusalem, as they returned home to the settlement of Kiryat Arba overlooking Hebron. Twenty bullets hit their car.

The grim reminder of the unfinished war in Lebanon shocked many Israelis, falsely lulled into a new sense of security by the election result. It was followed by heavy Israeli artillery retaliation which killed a Lebanese soldier and injured a civilian, prompting charges from Hezbollah that the ceasefire had been breached.

According to the deal secured by Warren Christopher, the American Secretary of State, only attacks against civilian targets are prohibited by the single-page ceasefire document. Hezbollah sources said that it was considering whether the alleged Israeli breach — firing into villages north of the security zone — would prompt new Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee.

The ferocity of the Hezbollah attack, mounted at 5.30am as an Israeli night patrol was returning to base near the ruin of Beaufort



Israeli army medical personnel rush a soldier wounded in the Hezbollah attack to a helicopter at an air force base near the Lebanese border yesterday

Castle, brought to 16 the number of Israeli soldiers killed in southern Lebanon this year.

The outgoing Prime Minister, Shimon Peres, who was criticised by Benjamin Netanyahu, his successor, for ending the onslaught prematurely, yesterday visited the north and spoke to army commanders. Sources said that they pressed home the

argument for harsher retaliation against Hezbollah targets.

Yesterday's attack underlined the vulnerability of Israeli soldiers inside the nine-mile wide self-declared security zone, which Israel has held since its troops pulled back from Lebanon in 1985. Many senior figures in Mr Netanyahu's Likud party argued that any ceasefire in

April should have included an end to attacks on Israeli troops in the security zone, but this was rejected by Syria. Israel Radio admitted in its account that virtually every member of the ambushed Israeli patrol had been killed or wounded. Some of the wounded were evacuated by military helicopters.

One survivor described the chaos at the scene, saying that

the soldiers did not know what hit them and describing the cries of the dying. A Hezbollah statement released in Beirut said: "A group of fighters ambushed a Zionist patrol consisting of more than 10 soldiers. The fighters hit them with machinegun fire and rocket-propelled grenades and clashed with them until all fell to the ground, dead or wounded."

Western military experts said the high death and injury toll among the Israelis had dramatically underlined the failure of Operation Grapes of Wrath to damage Hezbollah's military infrastructure. Much of its weaponry is ferried in with Syrian connivance and its hit-and-run fighters often travel by motor scooter.

Mr Netanyahu will not take control until he has presented his new Government to the Knesset for a vote of confidence, a move he is planning by June 17 if coalition negotiations continue smoothly. But his imminent responsibility was signalled by unscheduled talks he held with Mr Peres last night.

Meanwhile settlers in Kiryat Arba are expected to use the attack there to step up pressure on Mr Netanyahu to delay the Hebron withdrawal, originally scheduled on the previous Labour timetable to take place tomorrow.

Likud's response could spell end of peace process

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

COMMENTARY

THE killing of two Jewish settlers inside Israel and at least five Israeli soldiers in occupied southern Lebanon in less than 24 hours poses a severe first test for Prime Minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu, who narrowly won power by promising Jews "peace with security".

Although the former commander has yet to complete his right-wing Likud-led coalition, the resurgence in violence — the dominant issue in last month's election campaign — has ensured that the subject will overshadow the first days of his nationalist-religious Government.

The security crisis has jolted Israelis, who have been enjoying a lull from terrorist attacks. Its urgency was underlined by reports that Mr Netanyahu was to meet Shimon Peres, the outgoing Prime Minister, to discuss Israel's response.

Arab and Palestinian leaders have said that any hawkish act by the new Government is likely to result in more raids by militant groups.

Likud also has to worry about the consequences of a total collapse of the 1993 Middle East peace process, which could result in the Palestine Liberation Organisation reverting to a violent campaign.

Freih Abu Medeen, the Palestine Authority's Justice Minister, said in a response to the shooting of the two settlers: "Now expect the unexpected. Maybe there will be a new round of violence. Who knows? If there is no real achievement in the peace process, if Mr Netanyahu and his Government turn their back on the peace process, expect more violence."

The main fear of Western nations is that the expected tougher response by Mr Netanyahu will only succeed in tit-for-tat retaliation by both Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas and radical Palestinian groups in Gaza and the West Bank.

If Mr Netanyahu abides by his campaign promises, his response will have to be even harsher than Mr Peres's 17-day artillery and aerial blitz on Lebanon in April. Such an action can only harden the Arab front that is rapidly gathering strength, and which will find common expression in Cairo from June 21-23, at the first pan-Arab summit for six years.

The fact that the murder of the settlers took place close to the West Bank city of Hebron also causes problems for Mr Netanyahu. If he now fails to allow the agreed-to evacuation of Israeli soldiers from the area, he will send the clearest message, both to Arabs and the West, that the peace process is veering towards collapse.

In Lebanon, Israeli intelligence experts have no doubt that Syria, infuriated by Mr Netanyahu's early declaration of no territorial compromise over the occupied Golan Heights, is quietly encouraging Hezbollah to step up its terror campaign.

If attacks escalate, Mr Netanyahu will be under huge pressure from the army and voters to launch a deadly onslaught next April's Operation Grapes of Wrath. Some would-be senior ministers want Israel's security zone in south Lebanon to be extended to the Litani River.



Netanyahu promised "peace with security"

US mutes nuclear test anger

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY
IN HONG KONG

CHINA's latest nuclear test, held at the weekend, met a more muted response than has been usual from Washington because America is keen not to anger Peking during negotiations to avoid a trade war over Chinese copyright piracy.

Thomas Graham, the chief US arms negotiator, said in Kuala Lumpur yesterday that China's agreement to set off only one more explosion before joining the Comprehensive

Test Ban Treaty "goes a long way in the direction of what we hope to be the outcome of the negotiations... They said they were going to stop testing — period — after one more test. They've never said that before."

Peking is hurrying to fine-tune testing so its nuclear-tipped missiles can reach farther with greater accuracy. At the weekend, James Lilley, the former US Ambassador to Peking and CIA director, said he regarded China as especially dangerous because in March one Chinese

diplomat claimed that the US was within reach of Peking's nuclear missiles.

The White House has a strong desire to reach an agreement on intellectual theft with China before June 17, when punitive tariffs of \$2 billion (£1.3 billion) are to be set in motion by each side.

An agreement would also help President Clinton persuade Congress to approve his decision to grant China another year of Most Favoured Nation trading status.

Leading article, page 19

AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES COMPETITION

Win 12 Magnums of champagne every month for a year

When you have something to celebrate you drink champagne, and today *The Times* is offering readers the chance to win 12 magnums of Moët & Chandon every month for a year. The occasion is to celebrate our sensational summer of sport. We are now hosting the most important sporting event in the UK for thirty years — Euro 96.

Next comes Wimbledon, the most exciting tennis tournament in the world. Then it's the Olympics in Atlanta when we can — hopefully — toast our athletes' success with bubbly. After that there is Cowes and the British Open, not to mention Henley, horse racing, Test matches and the British Grand Prix. It is going to be a long and thirsty sporting summer.

This is the first of a series of competitions we will be introducing over the next few weeks to celebrate our summer of sport and your entry has to be in by Saturday.

Moët & Chandon was established in 1743 and it quickly became the favourite tipple of Europe's movers and shakers. The Emperor Napoleon, the Duke of Wellington and Sir Winston Churchill are among the famous warriors who enjoyed the potent mixture of bubbles and grapes. Many of our subsequent kings and queens took to it with a vengeance and now the British quaff more champagne than anyone else in the world — 17 million bottles last year.

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Simply complete the entry coupon below with your answer to the following question: *How many years has Moët & Chandon been making champagne?*

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MOËT & CHANDON

Ershad poll broadcast is banned

Dhaka: Bangladesh's jailed former President, Hussain Mohammad Ershad, leader of the Jatiya Party, was effectively barred from giving a broadcast general election speech yesterday.

The Supreme Court delayed an order allowing him to give a recorded address on state television and radio. Campaigning was officially banned from last night, before tomorrow's elections. The campaign has left 13 dead and hundreds injured.

President Biswas, who heads the caretaker Government, has ordered 400,000 police and militia and 40,000 troops to keep order during and after polling. (AFP)

Kashmir protests

Jammu: Kashmir state was paralysed as Hindus demonstrated against a village massacre by Muslim militants of ten Hindus, and Muslims went on strike over attacks on separatist leaders. (AFP)

Fires curbed

Peking: Forest fires that have ravaged two-thirds of Mongolia over the past three months have been brought under control, but the Government has warned people to be on the alert for new outbreaks. (AFP)

Dream flight

Auckland: Air New Zealand pilots on long-haul international flights can take a 30-minute nap in the cockpit, but co-pilots have been warned to wake them gently, the *New Zealand Herald* said. (Reuters)

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Senate prepares for a new era as Dole bows out

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BOB DOLE today ends a remarkable 35-year congressional career that began the same snowy January that Dwight Eisenhower left the Oval Office.

As the Republican presidential nominee, photographed hundreds of photographs for which he has posed with aides and colleagues over the past few days, his staff yesterday packed up the last of the boxes in his beloved Senate office overlooking Washington's famous Mall and made him a gift of the mahogany desk he has used for a decade.

Republicans were last night throwing a glittering dinner at the Washington Convention Centre to honour the man who has led the party in the Senate for a record 11 years. Mr Dole will today make what is likely to be an emotional farewell speech from the Senate floor and share a final lunch with his Republican colleagues.

Even President Clinton was hoping to pay a last courtesy call on the 72-year-old senator as a mark of respect for his distinguished service.

Tomorrow Senate Republi-

cans are to elect a new leader, and Trent Lott is considered almost certain to defeat his fellow Mississippian, Thad Cochran.

Mr Lott, 54, represents a sharp break with the relatively genteel, old-school style of leadership practised by Mr Dole. An aggressive conservative ideologue of the New Gingrich school, he prefers confrontation to compromise. Radical conservatives should seal their takeover of the Republican Party in the Senate in November when several veteran moderates retire.

Mr Dole has cast an astonishing 12,781 votes during his eight years in the House and 27 in the Senate. He has seen nine Presidents in the Oval Office, and been a leading player during an era of profound change encompassing the civil rights revolution, the Vietnam War and Watergate.

He has championed civil rights legislation, food stamps for the poor, aid for the disabled and deficit reduction, and his overall record is considerably less conservative than his present election-year

rhetoric. Political analysts hailed him as one of America's great legislators and said that while few laws bear his name, little important legislation could have obtained congressional approval over the past decade without his unique ability to broker deals.

"It is significant that there is no major piece of legislation known as the Dole Act," said Ross Baker, a political scientist at Rutgers University. "It tells you what kind of leader he's been. His mark can be found on so much, but his influence was extensive, not intensive. He became a kind of legislative virtuoso, a master of the process, not a visionary or high-concept man."

But Mr Dole's strengths as a legislator — his ability to find common ground and engineer compromises — are ill-suited to the demands of modern presidential campaigning where the goal is to exaggerate, not blur ideological differences. It is probably no accident that only two sitting senators — Warren Harding and John Kennedy — have been elected President.

Indeed, Mr Dole is such a poor campaigner that he has conspicuously failed to exploit the renewed national attention he won through last month's bold decision to leave the Senate.

Despite the latest White-water eruptions, Mr Dole still trails Mr Clinton by 15 to 30 points in most polls, and his advisers are trying to improve his performance before the silver-tongued President can overwhelm him on the stump and in debates.

The man who always claimed to be a "doer not a talker", remains transparently uncomfortable on the hustings. One columnist observed that in leaving the Senate, Mr Dole is "giving up something he loves for something he hates to do to try for something he probably can't have".



Susie Maroney is treated for dehydration and exhaustion after being pulled from the water as her mother Patricia, left, talks to reporters

Woman claims record after swim from Cuba

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

AN AUSTRALIAN swimmer claimed a long-distance swimming record yesterday after attempting to cross the 90-mile straits between Cuba and the United States.

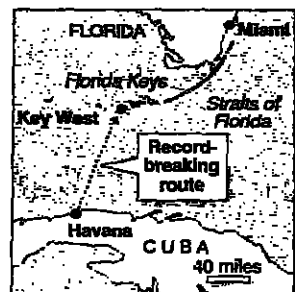
Susie Maroney, 21, reached US territorial waters after a 39-hour swim in which she covered more than 80 miles. But she was hauled out of the water suffering from dehydration and nausea, about ten miles from land.

It remains unclear whether she will be officially credited with completing the crossing, a feat that has defied more

than 50 swimmers. "She couldn't fight the current anymore," said Connie Pignatiello, a member of her support team. "She accomplished an amazing feat. She did make it into US waters."

Tom Hextel, of the World Marathon Association, was reported later to have verified the 88.5-mile distance and declared it a world record.

Miss Maroney was delighted with her accomplishment. "As soon as we were in American waters, we said 'That's it,'" she said after being taken by boat and ambulance to a Florida hospital. She discharged herself a few hours later.



An experienced long-distance swimmer, Miss Maroney has crossed the English Channel and circled Manhattan Island. But the Straits of Florida are the marathon swimmers' ultimate challenge, due to hazardous weather and the energy-sapping currents of the Gulf Stream.

Miss Maroney, who was fed a diet of liquid protein, mashed bananas and yoghurt, said she was unlikely to make another attempt. She said she tried to keep her spirits up, but suffered from depression and cried on several occasions. "I just kind of thought of funny things ... things that kept me happy. I never thought there would be an end."

Swimming part of the way in a shark-proof cage attached to a motor boat, she made good progress after leaving Havana before dawn on Saturday. About 20 miles from

Cuba she discarded the cage because waves caused it to bump against her.

Mrs Pignatiello said Miss Maroney's spirits had been boosted by a 40ft whale which followed her part of the way. "She loves dolphins and nature and all that. I guess if you can swim like that you're part of the ocean," she said.

But in the end, the stiff currents and eight-foot waves kicked up by a sudden storm on Saturday night, were too much. When Miss Maroney was hauled out of the water late on Sunday afternoon, she was disoriented and suffering from exhaustion and dehydration.

White girl, 13, held after church torched

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

A WHITE teenage girl was arrested yesterday after a church for black people was burnt down in North Carolina.

The arrest came as police questioned two men about another fire at a Texas chapel, the latest in a spate of blazes to strike 30 Southern black congregations in 18 months.

The unidentified girl, described as "deeply troubled", is alleged to have set fire to the wooden sanctuary of Matthews Murkland Presbyterian Church in Charlotte last week, but police said she had no connection with the other attacks. "I feel a deep sense of sorrow that a 13-year-old girl has not only ruined a church but her life," said Larry Hill, the pastor.

The fire at the 93-year-old

sanctuary prompted President Clinton to announce several measures to halt the burnings in Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Virginia, Georgia and North Carolina.

At a meeting with 60 black ministers in Washington yesterday, Robert Rubin, the Treasury Secretary, promised that federal investigators would not rest until the trust of the black community had been returned to the South.

"This Administration will do everything in our power to get to the bottom of these fires," he said. "Few crimes are as sensitive or as important as the torching of our places of worship."

The two men were detained after the New Lighthouse of Prayer Church in Greenville, Texas, was razed yesterday.

US soldier 'opened fire on comrades'

FROM REUTER IN FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA

A US Army sergeant was yesterday accused of being a "cold-blooded murderer" who tried to shoot soldiers as 1,300 gathered at dawn on a Fort Bragg exercise field.

William Kreutzer, 27, a member of a crack paratroop unit and the holder of an army Good Conduct Medal, is charged with murdering a fellow 82nd Airborne soldier — Major Stephen Badger, 30 — with a 22-calibre semi-automatic rifle last October. He also faces 18 counts of attempted murder and four of maiming. If found guilty by the court-martial, he faces the death penalty. The US military last executed a soldier in 1961.

Captain Paul Barden, opening for the prosecution, said the shooting was premeditated.

"The man sitting there is a cold-blooded murderer. He attempted mass murder but he failed."

Captain Stephen Stokes, for the defence, said Sgt Kreutzer was troubled and had unsuccessfully sought help from the Army. "Emotionally, Sgt Kreutzer was falling apart. He was coming unglued at the seams and he knew it."

The sergeant is said to have hidden among pine trees before grabbing a gun and starting to fire. He was wrestled to the ground by soldiers outside the stadium but Badger was shot and died at the scene.

Sgt Kreutzer tried to plead guilty last month but a military judge ruled that a jury had to hear the charges and determine punishment.



Hashimoto: pressured

Okinawa challenge

Tokyo: The Governor of Okinawa, boosted by a weekend election victory, met Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Prime Minister, yesterday to lobby against the controversial American bases on the island. Masahide Ota is also due to see William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, next week. (AFP)

Old sailor draws line at gay image of wartime embrace

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A HOMOSEXUAL reinterpretation of the VJ-Day photograph of a sailor kissing a girl in New York has displeased the original participants.

A drawing, based on Alfred Eisenstaedt's 1945 classic snapshot, adorns the front cover of this week's *New Yorker* magazine. Instead of a young sailor embracing a Manhattan belle, it shows him in the same amorous pose — but with another mate.

"I think it's goddam lousy," was the reaction from George Mendonsa, 72, the high-spirited serviceman who was caught by the *Life* magazine photographer in Times Square that day 51 years ago as he celebrated Japan's defeat. The watercolour pastiche by Barry Blitt is called *Don't Ask*, in echo of President

Clinton's policy on homosexuals in the armed forces.

The original snap became an instant success — a single moment, caught on film, which evoked the relief people felt that war was over.

Trudy Leavitt, one of a number of women thought to have been the original girl in the picture (there was much sailorly snogging in Times Square that day), said: "I am all for homosexuals having their rights but they shouldn't have made such fun of such a nice photograph."

Mrs Leavitt, 72, had fond memories of the atmosphere in Times Square on VJ-Day. "I was going to meet my soldier fiancé and suddenly this sailor came up to me and bent me backwards," she said yesterday. "He held me so strongly

yet so gently. I was off balance. When he put me back upright I walked away in a huff until a boy on a bicycle came up and said, 'Hey, Life got your photo.'"

She went on to marry a man from the Air Corps. "It was very nice to be a girl in those days," she recalled yesterday. "I was engaged to two boys at the same time."

Homosexuals were delighted with the drawing, Benjamin Sill of the Lesbian and Gay Community Services group in Greenwich Village, said: "It celebrates the long history that gays have had in the military. Mr Mendonsa and Mrs Leavitt shouldn't be insulted."

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Anguish in Spain after gunman fires on parade

FROM TUNU VARADARAJAN IN HERREROS DE RUEDA

RIVULETS of blood stain the white walls near the second-floor window from which Jesús Andrés Iglesias fell after Civil Guards had shot him dead.

Before being riddled with police bullets on Sunday evening, Iglesias — 40 years old, single and mentally disturbed — had fired more than 30 shots with his double-barrelled hunting rifle at a religious procession passing below his window. The narrow main street in Herreros de Rueda,

a village of 35 inhabitants near León in northwest Spain, afforded few possibilities for escape. Three processionists — Victorico Martínez, 73, Hermínio Martínez, 72, and Eva González, 22 — died on the spot, all shot in the back.

The "Corpus Christi massacre", as Sunday's events have been dubbed, has provoked anguish in Spain. Iglesias has bloodily evoked *España negra*, which is present most clearly in the country's long history of rural violence. Modern Spain, for its part, simply does not understand: it can

only grieve. Herreros de Rueda itself has coped with the horror in a way that a larger place might not have done. Everyone is related here and grief is shared by the villagers. Their initial devastation has now given way to intense anger. "Everyone knew the killer was disturbed, loco. But why did the police let him keep his guns? Why was he allowed a licence?" an old woman said.

"It's like that place in Scotland," added another, referring to Dunblane. "Fewer people died here, of course, and thank God no little children were

killed, but this is what happens when you allow just anyone to have a gun."

The killer, had a history of confrontation with the villagers. He was often abusive, they say, always threatening. He was known to fire several rounds from his rifle every night into the trees in the yard behind his house. "We complained several times to the Civil Guard," one villager told me, "but they never did anything. They said that he hadn't hurt anyone."

A young sergeant of the Civil Guard died on Sunday, too, as police confronted the gunman.

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The Family - Day Two: Thomas Stuttaford on parenting; Alice Thomas Ellis on sibling

Fathers are vital, too

Men need to reclaim their role as equal partners in the family

WHERE have all the fathers gone? Whenever a child dies, whether from violence or disease, the television crew immediately homes in on the victim's mother. It is as if the father's place in the home had been of little importance in the casualty's life and that the death did not cause them to suffer the same grief and anguish. Watch the next press conference after a child's murder: the father may be there, but it is the mother who will describe her loss.

The father's role in the family is not helped by the current designation of the male in television advertisements, in which he is made to look absurd. Whereas nobody wants a return to the patriarchal despot of the 19th century, the father's opinion is of some importance in determining the dynamics of a family. Arguments as to whether person- or bad, are inherited or acquired have raged for as long as I have been in medicine. That there is no definitive answer is because it is impossible to disentangle the various strands which together contribute to the formation of an adult character. A kindly, pleasant parent may not only have handed on better genes but will probably also have provided a better home environment: likewise both nature and nurture may have proved detrimental to the development of an adolescent who later becomes a delinquent.

Human beings should never be so conceited that they dismiss the accepted wisdom of stockbreeders, that temperament as well as the physique can be inherited: valid evidence as all the animals in a herd have an identical upbringing. In a household, the environment can be varied to emphasise a child's good points and diminish their bad ones. A survey carried out about 30 years ago in the East End of London

showed that a disproportionate number of policemen and crooks came from the same family background. The inherited characteristics when well disciplined and carefully nurtured produced a constable. When uncontrolled the result could be a villain. When both parents are present in the family, preferably acting in unison, there is a greater likelihood that the child will grow into a well-balanced adolescent, and later, adult. The father, it is hoped a loveable and loving male role model, should, as he does in primitive societies, play just as important a part in the lives of the children as the mother. That fathers should care for their children is no new concept.

The media reflect as well as determine life in modern households. One-parent families are becoming increasingly common despite the almighty increase in wealth of evidence that children are more likely to flourish in a complete household even where there is discord, than if the father is absent.

The demands of modern commercial life are as adept as the divorce courts in producing one-parent families. The middle classes, which have traditionally set such great store by a united family, are now suffering office hours that would have made Victorian mill-owners blush. The aggressive city lifestyle which determines that a man is often at his desk by 7.30am and does not leave the office for 12 hours destroys family life as effectively as infidelity. Little wonder if the city worker exerts little influence on their upbringing, and does not establish a companionable, paternal relationship which makes discipline easy.

Unless the importance of the father in the family can be re-established, the family will become unbalanced, and so, perhaps, will the children's psyche.



DR THOMAS STUTTAFFORD



Brotherly love: Cain and Abel may be the archetypal rivals but sisters are frequently capable of blowing up minor squabbles into arguments of almost murderous proportions

Jealousy in the blood

FAMILY LIFE

Personally speaking

WHEN BROTHERS AND SISTERS FIGHT

Being an only child I have no immediate experience of sibling rivalry. I have been told that my single status makes me something of an incomplete human person, lacking the stimulus that a brother or sister would provide. But I confess I have never had any regrets about it.

When I was a child I found friends quite sufficient and they went home in the evenings, leaving me in pleasant solitude. When I was a very small child and in the company of friends who did have brothers and sisters, I witnessed a number of nasty scenes, always enlivened by yells of "it's not fair". There was frequently a certain amount of physical violence and it was clear that unless there were two or three (depending on the size of the family) of everything — dolls,

cakes, ballet frocks — there was going to be trouble.

Sisters were the worst: the most acquisitive, the most aggressive, and younger sisters were the worst of all, especially when they had no friends of their own. Whether this was by reason of their youth or general unpopularity, they were a terrible trial and I have never understood why it is usually brothers who are presented in myth and literature as deadly rivals. I brought up five sons and a daughter and on the whole the boys got along very well, with shared interests and a common instinct to keep me in the dark about their activities. They seldom fought among themselves, being too busy wagging war on civilisation.

Home life, while it could never be described as peaceful, rattled along amiably enough. They developed differently and formed separate groups of friends. It made the house crowded but it left me fairly free, if only to cook and clean and work my fingers to the bone. I'm not complaining.

Meanwhile those of my friends who had given birth to daughters began to wear harassed expressions. I could never understand it since when I encountered their little girls they seemed perfectly sweet. It was explained to me that they weren't always like that and certainly not in the privacy of the home. I thought the mothers were exaggerating. My own childhood having faded into the rosy mist. No, they insisted. I had no idea of what they went through. Terrible battles blew up over trivial things, especially clothes, and it grew worse as the girls grew older. I could see that this could well be a source of strife.

If someone habitually steals your things or wears the dress you had laid out for the evening you might well get impatient. And friends, explained this mother. They stole each other's friends and the whole concept of amity disappeared in a whirl of fists

and feet. One enchanting, blue-eyed, fair-haired little creature assured her dark-haired sister that she had it on unimpeachable authority that God preferred blondes and the household was in an uproar for weeks. They competed in everything from sums to public speaking and it was only surprising that they hadn't murdered each other. Fortunately they had never fancied the same boys or heaven knows what the consequences would have been.

They were expert at measuring and would sit watching, hawk-like, as the pudding was served, the lemonade poured or the sweets shared out, and should have developed into mathematical geniuses. There were problems about winter coats — a major item of expenditure — since none of them wished to look identical to her sisters, but all were fearful lest another should have a superior garment with more fur round the collar or better buttons. They never went to the lengths of ruining a sister's party frock by putting lidless, indelible colouring pencils in its folds — but I know a child who did. She said it was her sister's fault for doing her homework in the bedroom, thereby subtly demeaning her elder sister for being a swot, and careless to boot, and somehow managing to exonerate herself from blame.

As we were discussing these unseemly events another friend described how her sister had earnestly tried to strangle her and had only been prevented by the intervention of their father. This had caused the would-be throttlee to complain that Daddy liked her sister better than her or he wouldn't have interfered. Somebody inquired of the victim — a tall girl who once rode for England — if she had tried to defend herself and she said that to respond in kind would have been beneath her dignity. When we learnt that her sister had made a second attempt on her life by throwing a brick at her we were not altogether astonished.

It was assumed for a while, as the theories of Freud held sway, that when the children were discovered fighting over a pair of skates or a Mint Imperial, it was really the yearning for the exclusive affections of Mummy or Daddy that lay at the source of the conflict. I think this doubtful. If we are going to speak in large terms then it is probable that our instincts urge us to seize territory for ourselves, closely followed by useful or pleasing objects. I know few children of either sex who would sit on Mother's lap watching equally as the others staked out bits of garden and ate the strawberries.

But even as I visualise this scene I see the girls getting more concentrated and vicious as the strawberries get smaller and fewer. The boys have already drifted off with their catapults, assuming that someone will have picked their strawberries for them and will serve them up at tea-time. They will certainly be vying in various distressing ways to outdo each other, be the first to bag a song thrush or fall off the highest tree, but they play against a larger background, thus sparing the parents a very great deal. I am open to argument but my experience tells me that girls are more often given to strife over small

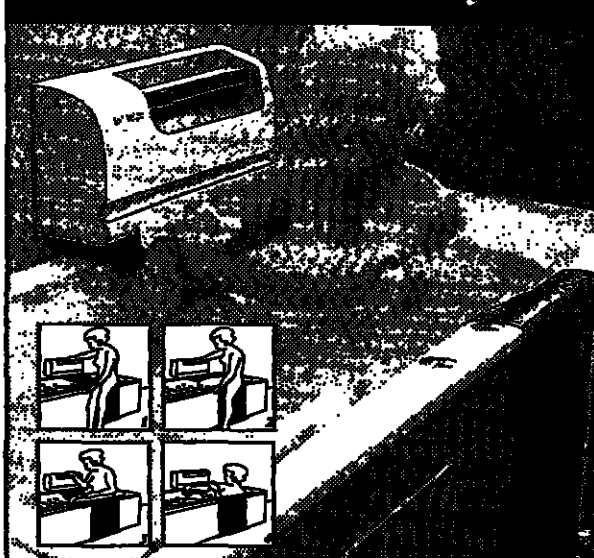
matters and are more trouble than boys — except, as a father has just pointed out — when the boys have air rifles and use each other as targets. Even here it is not so much murderous rivalry as the thrill of the chase that motivates them.

Yet it's not that simple. I once asked my daughter who held, as I thought, a privileged position as the youngest child and the only girl, why she had been so frequently disagreeable when she was small, and she answered that it was because she had five brothers and it wasn't fair. I had always thought them rather indulgent towards her. Perhaps jealousy is simply a universal female characteristic and must find an outlet.

I am still baffled as to why Cain and Abel should be the prototype of sibling rivalry when girls are so much better at it: why none of our great minds has ever really addressed the topic. Maybe it's ancient, masculine arrogance, the conviction that it doesn't matter what the girls get up to, back at base. Or perhaps the savage truth is just too frightening to contemplate.

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'Girls, it seems, even steal each other's friends'

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rivalry; and Valerie Grove on why teenagers seem compelled to conform to stereotype

'Sleepless nights are caused not by the presence, but by the absence of the child'

THE TEENAGE YEARS

Standing by the toaster, Erica contemplates her children, whom she once thought the most beautiful beings on earth. Jeffrey's streaked blond hair hangs tangled and unwashed over his eyes... he hunches awkwardly above the table, cramming fried egg into his mouth and chewing noisily. Matilda, who is wearing a peevish expression and an orange tie-dyed jersey, looks as if it had been spat on, is stripping the crusts off her toast with her fingers. Chomp, crunch, scratch...

"In her whole life she cannot remember disliking anyone so much as she now sometimes dislikes Jeffrey and Matilda." This graphic passage from Alison Lurie's novel *The War Between the Tenses* (1974) is just one literary example of how parents are forewarned.

Lurie's Erica remembers her children's babyhood, the happy albums, and scrapbooks of drawings and school reports reflecting how perfect her children were once, before they grew "rude, coarse, selfish, nasty, brutish and tall".

Teenage children are so predictable. And so are their parents, even if we knew in advance what to expect. "This is such a cliché," I rage, as another daughter goes out slamming another door.

Beautiful, clever, and good as one's children are (they might read this) they also

seem compelled to conform to the stereotype: they do come home late, stay in bed till noon, play loud music, treat this house like a hotel, dump loads of crumpled laundry on the landing, keep your favourite coffee mug in their room until it grows spores, make do with peanut butter sandwiches just before supper, devour whole bottles of milk and Coke standing at the fridge door, ignore the expensive outfits you bought in favour of an Oxfam cast-off or something from a skip, permanently require a new piece of electronic equipment, and regard *Neighbours* and *The Simpsons* as sacrosanct. (Actually we all love *The Simpsons*.)

They are constantly on the telephone, with nothing to say but much to laugh about: or in the bath, slapping Body Shop face packs on flawless skins or recolouring their hair. The chaos in their bedrooms achieves a certain artistry. They recline on your study chair, Doc Martens on desk, affronted and indignant when you ask for your desk back. They never go out (usually to buy another little top) without asking for a fiver. They grow into giants, with giant friends, and gigantic appetites, reducing your spacious kitchen to the size of a galley. Their vocabulary is full of "cool" and "wow". I have just listened to a



Valerie Grove, at the cutting edge of parenthood with three of her four children, says she has passed on her worst failings. From left Emma, 16, Oliver, 13, and Victoria, 15

discussion between one of the girls and her long-suffering father, about whether she may have her navel pierced so she can wear a stud in it. "No one will see it," "Then what's the point of it?" "Lots of people have one." "Only imbeciles mutilate their bodies!" etcetera — oh Lord, not again. Three daughters in seven years means at least a decade of this kind of confrontation.

When it comes to basic incompetence in life skills — losing travel cards; going to a museum on the one day it is closed; demanding a new calculator at 11pm on the eve of maths GCSE; needing to be chauffeured to distant places, having no concept of the geography of London; leaving unstamped letters in the hall, expecting them to be posted by magic — I am on shakier ground. As my husband points out, it is I who am the great loser of things (only on Saturday he had to rescue me when I had lost my car keys in Fenwick's) and my study is a tip, so I seem to have passed on my worst failings (cf. "They fill you with the faults they had" — Philip Larkin).

The wall of the parent of cute new babies is that they never realised how exhausting it would be. Such whines provoke a cynical laugh from the teen parent, whose sleepless nights are caused by the absence, not the presence of the child, and who knows that no amount of Calpol can now soothe their woes. I now

admire anyone who has survived being at the cutting edge of parenthood. As Fay Weldon once said to me: "People without children can go on believing they are a nice person." The childless lead unimaginably charmed lives, uninterrupted by demands, exams and the daily life-or-death decisions caused by the teenager's total lack of fear of dark streets, and magnetic attraction for places where terrifying mobs gather.

'There is a great deal of natural charm about teenagers'

Sex is, strangely, not a bothersome subject. Years ago, when my three daughters were under six, Drusilla Beyfus, mother of the glamorous Shulman girls (one now edits *Vogue* and the other is a courtesan) told me: "You must accept that teenage relationships today begin, rather than end, with sex." At school, tampons were handed out in their PSE lessons. When I first heard a daughter shouting unabashedly to her father departing for Sainsbury's:

"Dad! Get me some Tampax Regular and some pads with wings!" I thought how different from our own furtive times, girls excused gym because they were "unwell", carrying home Dr. White's boxes the size of corollaries packets.

I have gradually learnt to remember that I, too, was a teenager. When I read the diaries I kept from age 13 to 18, I realise that there are many embarrassing similarities. Of course I never slept until midday, and nobody could stand in our freezing hall on the telephone for hours. There was no loud music then in bedrooms (only Jimmy Saville's "Under the bedclothes club" on one's transistor) and no question of having three, or seven, friends sleeping over in one's room, as our lot routinely do. I read more than they do, and played tennis more; but I was just as keen on going to parties (and giving them). And I brought home youths who drooped in the doorway, awaiting parental approval. (Now I am that parent, while the youths look much the same.) I had thought I was a complete swot, but the evidence shows that I spent a lot of time just having fun, and even more time mooning over the aforementioned youths. The great difference for lucky us was that there was no AIDS, and no drugs: the Pill arrived conveniently for my 19th birthday and nobody offered me any marijuana until at Cam-

bridge my friend F came back from India with a package, saying: "Is this illegal or something?"

I reproach myself for turning into a cliché, too, uttering all the banal, nagging reprovals, and waxing lyrical about Buddy Holly and Chuck Berry. Like my parents I mix up their friends — understandable when so many are named Daniel. One year Emma's circle were known as James I, James II, James III and James the Last. It's slightly irritating that I am not permitted to criticise their clothes, while they are allowed to tell me my Christian Lacroix makes me look like a bimbo, or that I am wearing "old woman's shoes". (You don't have to behave as badly as Edina and Patsy to induce pious revulsion in them.) In family photographs, next to their bloomy cheeks, thrusting cleavages and shining eyes, one now fades into the background, wearing clothes that say "The Mother".

A touching scene occurred

here a few nights ago. I saw from the window the arrival of a florist's van, and skipped downstairs to receive the floral tribute, saying "How lovely!" as the florist handed me a single rose. Then I realised it was addressed to Miss V, and not Mrs V. Grove — an anonymous admirer's declaration of love to the third daughter who at 15 is nearly six feet tall and built for the catwalk. "I thought it was for me," I said. "Ah, poor mummy," said Victoria.

There is much to be said, after all, for living alongside a bunch of teenagers. What I do like about them is their challenging, cut-the-crap attitudes. They instantly spot a poseur, and mercilessly mimic our friends — making us howl. Shared family jokes do make up for an awful lot. They constantly surprise you: by reading *Madame Bovary* unbidden, or scoring a century; by their singing voices, their

burst of creative activity in writing a good poem, or by sudden acts of kindness: emptying the dishwasher, or rescuing a fledgling and keeping it alive by finding it worms. There is a great deal of natural charm about teenagers.

Within ten years they will be gone (though I am told the teens now last till 30). Lucy, already 20, is beyond the teen label, has backpacked fearlessly through South America, and fled the nest.

I am forewarned by older friends that I will find their empty rooms unbearable, and wish them back with us — and it's true to say that whenever we make a brief escape *à deux*, we talk of little else but the four of them.

I announced that I was writing about teens, to general groans. "There's lots more stuff you don't know about," said Lucy, curling her lip and tossing her hair. Perhaps I should keep it that way.

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Vote to stop the federal juggernaut

Bill Cash on why MPs should support an early referendum

Why have I proposed my Referendum Bill, and why now? *Times* readers may have seen it coming since the Maastricht debates, when I put down more than 200 amendments. I also voted against the treaty 47 times, and presented a referendum petition with 350,000 signatures to the House in July 1993.

My Bill is not about whether the UK should be "in or out", as the federalists claim. It is about what kind of Europe we are in and where we are going. Nor is it a matter of Left or Right, as my list of sponsors clearly shows. They properly range across the national political spectrum, including Privy Counsellors and former Cabinet members, as well as David Trimble, the leader of the Ulster Unionists. As recent opinion polls show, British voters want to remain in the European Community for trade and political co-operation, but they do not want a federal Europe.

The Prime Minister is right when he says that if member states insist on federalism, then Britain will not follow them. The problem, however, is that under the Maastricht treaty, we are surfing on a

which led to the Government breaking its tax promises and credibility with the electorate — the situation is made worse by our own White Paper on Europe, which is effectively endorsed by the opposition front benches. This states: "If we were to press ideas which stand no chance of general acceptance, some other would seek to propose an integrationist agenda which would be equally unacceptable from our point of view." In other words, we will not insist on, let alone propose, treaty amendments to rule out monetary union and a single currency and the fundamental elements of a federal Europe. Hence the referendum question in my Bill.

Since the Maastricht treaty was signed, evidence has multiplied that EU policies — for example on unemployment and Bosnia — are not working. The electorate are increasingly opposed to the main proposals laid down at Maastricht by the political elite. In Germany, a majority of the electorate is now opposed to a single currency, and no one could suppose that in France they would vote now in favour of Maastricht. In Spain, unemployment is running at 23 per cent.

My Bill is about where we are going in Europe

So Britain has a responsibility to use the inter-governmental conference to put forward political amendments to the treaty, to avoid European government and to re-evaluate where all this is going. Britain must take a lead. The beef crisis is symptomatic of the deeper malaise afflicting Europe, including German domination, which looks like leaving Britain on the outer rim of a federal Europe. If we insist on fundamental amendments to the treaty — not least to monetary union and the proposed single currency — we can open up the vital questions about Europe's future before it is too late.

By reducing the competences of European government, largely conferred by Maastricht, we would prevent a federal Europe and curtail the power of the European Court of Justice to adjudicate on political issues, including those arising from monetary union.

The outbursts from the un-elected official Jacques Santer over the beef crisis simply illustrate my case and reveal the underlying problem of democratic legitimacy. The question is: who governs Britain — and how?

There are fundamental reasons for holding a proper referendum in the UK before the inter-governmental conference is concluded, after our general election, late next year.

Who represents Britain at that conference will be crucial to the national interest. The Government has already properly agreed in principle to hold a referendum, but only if a Conservative Cabinet says "yes" to a single currency. This qualification is — or ought to be — unthinkable, because a single currency would destroy our parliamentary democracy. Furthermore, Chancellor Kohl and the Euro-federalists' obsession with political union and the consequences of a hard-core Europe would also undermine the single market.

In the light of present failings of the EU and of the exchange-rate mechanism —



EXPULSION OF ADAMS & EVE (after Masaccio)

Two ages of democracy

In Burma, they risk their lives for elections; here we take them for granted

How long a road is it, do you think, from Aung San Suu Kyi to Dr Brian Mawhinney? How many generations divide a Nelson Mandela from a Peter Mandelson, or the Gdansk shipyard workers at prayer from the readers of *Parents* magazine taking virtual breakfast with Tony Blair? How long did it take for the Flood of British freedom (remember, the one which to the open sea of the world's praise, from dark antiquity hath flowed with pomp of waters unwithstood) to get dammed, channelled, mixed with synthetic lemonade powder and sold to us in paper cups? When did the blaze of democracy become so pale that it could be confused with the blinking cursor on a Conservative Central Office computer?

Sorry. The horror of the impending election campaign brings on a mental state expressible only in purple prose. But there is a huge question in there somewhere, which was dramatised by two consecutive stories on the weekend television news.

The first concerns Aung San Suu Kyi of Burma, a slight, dignified woman who last weekend stood with jasmine in her hair to speak to thousands of supporters. She, and they, asked with great gentleness and restraint that democracy should come to her crushed country. Daw Suu Kyi, unlike any Western politician I know of, rejects the emotive words "defiance" and "battle" in her campaign, and insists that her life is no drama. She, and the thousands at her gate, are simply asking for simple democracy. Yet in truth every one of them risks imprisonment for 20 years for making that request; imprisonment in Burma could equal leading, torture, rape, murder, anything. But to them, democracy is worth that risk.

Moments later, the news bulletin reported a development closer to home. Conservative Central Office. The BBC's Nick Robinson divulges, has got a new thing called "Pike". This is not a large savage fish, but a computer "Program for Identifying Key Electors". It has studied the electorate and identified two million marginal households. Pike — working with a leading marketing company, CCM — has assembled information about these people, from their postcodes to their consumer preferences, so as to "target" the campaign. There is nothing new about the method. Mail-order marketers use it

all the time, clicking away with their computer mice to work out, for instance, that someone who reads the *FT* and watches Rory Bremner and eats supermarket chicken tikka may very well be in the market for a fine-mesh lock-knit turtle-neck sweater at £29.99. They take the information from anything from street surveys to the strangely irrelevant questions on the guarantee slip for your new electric kettle.

What is new is the application of these techniques to canvassing. But it had to come. No point preaching to the converted, after all; or wasting an expensive printed list of Conservative achievements on some ungrateful lefty household which will only line the birdcage with it. While the letter may not actually begin "You have been selected from thousands in your area to be invited to vote Conservative", that will no doubt be the general line of it. Thus modern mail-order marketing techniques are merged with the democratic process. It is a high-tech version of the canvasser's time-honoured skill of guessing whether the lady on the doorstep cares more about crime or civil liberties, and adjusting the spiel accordingly. The Pike operatives, according to Robinson, will now refine it by sending out opinion questionnaires to individual voters, so that John Major can later seem to write a personal letter to them. I suppose they could also vary his clothes in the attached photo, according to the householders' known taste in turtle-neck sweaters.

It may well work. Personally, I always make a point of filling commercial questionnaires with inconsistent lies, just to foul them up. "Cambridge educated, *Sunday Sport* reader, rent a bedsitter, earn £500,000 a year, vote Natural Law party, consume 2lb of caviare a week, 16 children, no TV, and drive a Reliant Robin." That sort of thing. Marketers, however, assure me that this is a rare, as well as a silly, aberration, and that most people are

unaccountably truthful and meticulous in their returns. So whatever else Pike may be, it is probably pretty accurate.

Thus we are wooed, and thus we may well be won; if not by computer-assisted flattery, then by equally famous techniques. First of all — unlike the Burmese crowds, or the queues which snaked patiently across South Africa on election day — we still have to be coaxed to exercise the right that other people die for. Britain considers itself virtuous because 77.7 per cent of us vote; in America it is only 50 per cent. So youth will be tickled with "Rock the Vote!", maturity will be flattered by personalised letters, and old age will be offered lifts to the polling station and cups of tea. It is like watching an unreasonable toddler being coaxed into having a vaccination for the want of which millions of poorer children die.

Worse than this, though, are the enticements which have become part of the daily routine of British politics. Details of policy are considered dull, so our appetites must be tempted by rousing personal battles (unlike Suu Kyi, our democrats like that word). When a terrible brain disease of cattle appears to be transmissible to humans, and to have killed some, it is no time before the problem starts to be talked about as "Mr Major's Falklands" — a handy opportunity for the Prime Minister to get tough with foreigners. Sneering matches erupt daily over far lesser things: a politician's irrelevant adultery, his or her child's education or spouse's taste in clothes. Those who do not join in are condemned as weak and stupid; quite serious commentators have reproved Gillian Shepherd for not being unpleasant enough over Harriet Harman's child's school, and Jack Straw for insufficient personal venom against Michael Howard.

Opportunities to look loveable are courted. Tony Blair talks soppily to *Parents* magazine about his children

(votes won!) but admits that he has smacked them (hostile press works on it, votes lost!) and regretted it (friendly press retaliates, praises his frankness, votes won back). I may as well join in by exclusively revealing to *Times* readers that Mr Blair is a madman who serves his children breakfast in the small hours — for there is a photograph of the man smilingly pouring out their milk with the caption "Breakfast is a part of the children's daily routine that Tony tries not to miss". In the background, as my lynx-eyed daughter points out, the hands of the kitchen clock stand at ten to three. So: "Blair forces children from bed before dawn", or "Blair children not fed all day", or perhaps a paean to Mr Blair's trustful modesty, in not making his office check the pictures?

None of it has anything to do with anything we ought to vote on, nor with the glory of democracy. And yet, God help us, it is democracy. If it shocks newly enfranchised idealists abroad, we can say in our defence that once we too were serious: Victoria Lidiard, the centenarian suffragette, told me how she and her friends put on their best clothes on polling day and walked down the street "like queens, so proud". Moreover, the newly democratic nations will soon join in our saccharine-and-sour poisoning of the springs of democracy. Richard Beeston reporting in this paper yesterday that Russia is now being treated to the domestic habits of Mr Zhirnovsky (makes himself useful round the house, although perhaps not at 2.50am like our Mr Blair) and to the dress sense of Natalia Brinsalov, wife of the presidential hopeful, for whom a shiny leather bustier and lip-gloss are welcome weapons of democracy. Obviously, they have much to learn from us: perhaps one day they too will boast databases so sophisticated that the bustier can be targeted at the more sex-mad sector of the electorate while the others get pictures of Mrs Brinsalov in a boiler-suit, or wearing a crucifix.

Maybe there is only one moment when democracy is truly beautiful: the moment it is first achieved in thankfulness and hope, as in South Africa, and God willing, soon in Burma. After that it is all downhill to Pike and stagey breakfasts. Maybe democracy always turns tacky in the end. The real danger is that it might, one day, disgust and weary us so much that we welcome a dictatorship.

Libby Purves

Whose hearth?

THE MARQUESS of Bristol's attempt to help to finance a new life-style in the Bahamas by selling off heirlooms today from the family home at Ickworth in Suffolk has been too enthusiastic by half. Two marble fireplaces, valued at more than £50,000, have been withdrawn by Sotheby's from the auction because they are not the Marquess's to sell. National Trust

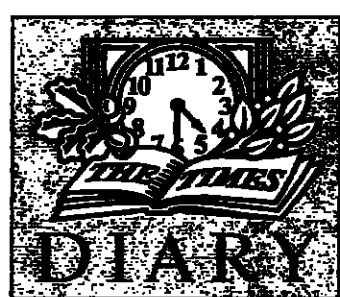
officials spotted the fine examples of 18th-century Italian craftsmanship while flipping through the catalogue, and claimed ownership.

Sotheby's yesterday admitted grudgingly to doubt about the ownership. "Two fireplaces have been withdrawn, one of which seems to belong to the National Trust; it is even less obvious who owns the other," said a po-faced spokesman.

The Trust has no doubt whatsoever. "They came as fixtures and fittings with the transfer of the east wing in 1956," said the local representative. "They are actually fixed in place in the house." This is indeed fortunate, because three years ago one of these two fireplaces was removed, presumably on the instructions of the Marquess. The National Trust discovered its absence in the nick of time and had it reinstalled.

Red to blue

BUTLIN'S Redcoats will for one evening this week turn a shade of blue, as Baroness Thatcher graces one of the company's happy holiday homes. She is to be guest



speaker at Butlin's Somerset World Holiday Centre in Somerset, the curious venue for a celebration in honour of her former Defence Secretary Tom King.

Mr King, a red-hot tip in the knobbly knees stakes, notched up 25 years as MP for Bridgwater last year, but the official celebration was delayed until the Baroness (favourite for glamorous granny) was free to attend. "They do what they call a silver service. It's an upmarket meal served with cut glass on the table," explains a constituency functionary. "There will even be a chalet for Lady Thatcher to change in."

How Good?

NOW THAT Cristina Odono has left the chair of Editor of the Catholic Herald to write novels, re-

gious tipsters have opened their book on her replacement. Odds are shortening on Paul Goodman, the monk turned comment editor of *The Daily Telegraph*.

Goodman, whose pin-striped style couldn't be further from the mini-skirted manner of the Odd One — who referred to church dignitaries as little bunny rabbits. A cerebral chap, he is keeping his silence. But he has his following, and is said to have been approached.

If he were to get the job, it would be a considerable change, to a much more traditional and right-wing leaning paper. "He would be



very good at all the topics the *Herald* focuses on," gushes Harry Coen, the caretaker editor.

● The horticultural world is desperately excited about a new heavyweight *Busy Lizzy* which has been developed. It is to be named "The Bruno", after the WBC world heavyweight champion boxer — because it is sturdy and thick.

Rabin shrine

AS ISRAELI retaliation against the Iranian-backed Hezbollah yesterday details of an unusual monument to Yitzhak Rabin, the assassinated Israeli Prime Minister, are being finalised in Oxfordshire.

A peace park has been created in Launton which is twinned with a similar venture in Eilat. Two businessmen have created a pond in his memory and are awaiting the arrival of a large stone from Carmel, in Galilee, which will be inscribed and form the centrepiece.

Hair raiser

AFTER months of scrupulous planning for Euro 96, the oversight of one small detail threw the Italian campaign into chaos. The team, arguably the continent's most fragrant sportsmen, arrived



Maldini's fly-away look

at their training camp at Manchester University's Crewe Alsager College to discover an alarming absence of hairdryers.

"Where are the hairdryers?" came the distressed cry of Paolo Maldini and his amici.

"Hairdryers? For men?" was the incredulous Lancastrian response. Italy's coach saw his championship hopes slipping away. Then a lifeline: special permission to use the hairdryers in the women's changing rooms.

Say no to the IRA's memorial

The City can save St Ethelburga's, says Giles Worsley

Today the City of London's planning committee will decide the future of one of the few surviving medieval churches in the City, St Ethelburga's. It is just over three years since an IRA bomb tore through the heart of Bishopsgate, appearing to demolish St Ethelburga's as it went. But as conservationists picked their way through the devastation, they were surprised to discover that two thirds of the building had survived — too much to demolish without further ado, too little simply to repair. How the building should be restored has divided conservationists and architects ever since.

The blast destroyed the façade and most of the very plain north wall and brought down the roof, but the most significant architectural elements of the building, the east wall with its traceried window and the arcade of the south aisle, together with the south wall, remained largely intact. Two options soon emerged. One, promoted by the Friends of St Ethelburga's, was to restore the building to its original appearance. Plans showing how this could be done were drawn up by the architects Rothermel Thomas, declared practical by structural engineers and have already received planning permission; but lacking the support of the Diocese of London, they sit in limbo. The alternative was to encase the remains in a modern structure, and it is just such a scheme, by the Blee Ettrwin Bridges Partnership, that the Diocese of London has presented to the planning committee.

Combining elements of an old building with radically modern ideas in this way requires an architect of genius, such as the Italian Carlo Scarpa. Sadly, there is no sign of that genius in the scheme before the committee. Far from giving new life to the structure, it seems to encase the remains with all the sterile charm of objects in a museum divorced from their context. If built, the carefully consolidated ruins will remain as permanent testament to the IRA's successful outrage.

But the critics do not look good for the Blee Ettrwin Bridges scheme, the glass façade of which has been variously compared to a wine bar and a car showroom. Despite the support of English Heritage, it was savagely attacked by the Royal Fine Art Commission, who condemned it as undistinguished, remained unconvinced by the basic concept and suggested that alternatives — including reconstruction — must be considered. A wide range of conservation bodies have joined in opposing the scheme, with only the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings arguing in its favour. Now the corporation's planning officers have recommended refusal, arguing that the designs lack merit and fail to make a positive contribution to the building's architectural character.

If the committee votes in favour of the modern scheme, it is unlikely to be out of conviction that this is a great work of architecture, but for fear that the alternative is some form of backward-looking pastiche, proof that the English have lost all confidence in modern architecture. This is absurd. What is appropriate in the unique case of St Ethelburga's has no bearing on what should be built elsewhere. Nor would restoration be evidence of a particularly English nostalgia.

Restoring, even reconstructing, buildings badly damaged by disaster, whether natural or man-made, has been one of the most characteristic responses of the 20th century throughout Europe. Numerous buildings, even whole towns and cities, were reconstructed after the Second World War. At the moment a cathedral demolished by Stalin is rising in Moscow, while the Frauenkirche, whose great dome once dominated Dresden, is rising from a pile of rubble, a project 20 times larger than the restoration of St Ethelburga's. Proof that such restoration can recapture the spirit of the lost original is to be found in Italy, where the delightful town of Venzon, flattened by an earthquake in 1976, has been rebuilt *dov'era, com'era* — "where it was, as it was". Its cathedral was consecrated last year, the effects of the earthquake still evident, but very clearly the building that it was before.

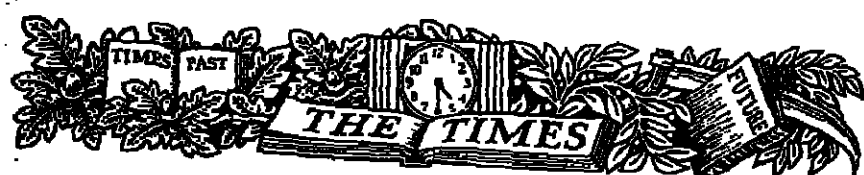
The City of London's planning committee should have no qualms about rejecting the Blee Ettrwin Bridges scheme, nor the Diocese of London in looking again at the Rothermel Thomas scheme. Too much momentum and energy has been lost already through prevarication. It is time the church was rebuilt. We have the skills and the information to do so; all that is needed is the money, an estimated £2.3 million, as against £3 million for the Blee Ettrwin Bridges scheme.

Once restored, St Ethelburga's, though still bearing the scars of its recent trauma, will be a powerful symbol of restoration, evidence of the way that democracies can triumph over the affronts of terrorism, not a painful, permanent record of a passing terrorist success.

The author is editor of the magazine *Perspectives on Architecture*.



Bristol fashion



TOO LOUD, TOO SOON

Ulster's politicians should not disrupt the talks

Although the talks on Ulster's future were never going to get very far very quickly, the performances which marked yesterday's opening session were particularly unfortunate. Sinn Féin's attempt to present its exclusion as a denial of the democratic rights of its voters is ugly posturing. If the republicans were interested in serious talks with peace, rather than victory, as their aim then the IRA would not still be prosecuting a war. There were other disturbing developments too for those who wish to see Ulster's democrats work towards a stable future for the Province. Unionists have good reason to be less than satisfied with the shape of the peace process so far. But the implacable voices within Unionism are shouting too loud, too soon.

Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party and Robert McCartney's UK Unionists have made clear their profound dissatisfaction with the structure of the talks. Mr Paisley is unhappy with former Senator George Mitchell as chairman and uneasy with the approach agreed on decommissioning paramilitary weapons. He proposes that the talks be chaired by politicians from the Province, with Unionists and nationalists alternating.

The fears articulated by Mr Paisley are not phantoms, but his party is acting precipitately. There is understandable concern among many Unionists that the peace process has become the property of foreign governments and professional diplomats and that the representatives of Northern Ireland's people need to reassert control.

This is more than just *amour propre*. Many in Ulster have been unsettled by the manner in which Dublin and London have courted Sinn Féin. The sense that terrorists and their apologists are forcing ministerial hands reinforces a dangerous feeling that democracy is an occasional impediment, rather than the only path, to a settlement. Operating in such a way over the head of

Ulster's people does not instil confidence. Against this background the appointment of former Senator Mitchell without the agreement of all the parties was a sticking point.

Understandable though the fears are, the objection to Senator Mitchell is misplaced. He is not, as Mr Paisley affects to believe, "a crony of Gerry Adams". Senator Mitchell's report on decommissioning was admirably fair and thorough. The British Government may have been mistaken in subcontracting policy on disarming terrorists to a foreign body but that is not Senator Mitchell's fault. Far from showing partiality to Sinn Féin, Senator Mitchell crafted conditions for the party's entry to talks which caused problems for the IRA. Sinn Féin's participation in talks depends on accepting the Mitchell principles: who better then to decide if it deserves a place at the table after a ceasefire than Senator Mitchell?

There may be darker motives for the behaviour of Mr Paisley and his associates. Having made a career out of scenting sell-outs he may be trying to outflank David Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionists, who saw his party's lead over the DUP undermined in the recent peace poll. Mr Trimble, although currently withholding approval for Senator Mitchell, recognises that flexibility now could have advantages if later, bigger battles are to be won. It would be a great pity if Unionist unity were being put under strain by the DUP for party advantage.

Mr Paisley should know as well as anyone that Sinn Féin's gains have been made because of the party's success in creating a pan-nationalist front. That front has fractures. The first responsibility of Unionists should be to divide democratic Irish nationalists from terrorists and seek progress with moderates. Division in Unionist ranks and confrontation where none is needed will only weaken the case of Ulster's majority.

CHINESE COMPROMISE

A welcome step towards a nuclear test ban treaty at last

China's announcement, two days after exploding a nuclear device at its Xinjiang test site, that it would end nuclear testing and sign a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) has been welcomed by its negotiating partners. The Americans, sharply critical of the underground explosion, noted with approval that this was the first time Peking had used the word moratorium. With only two weeks left before negotiators in Geneva must reach agreement, the chances of a treaty now being ready for signature at the autumn General Assembly of the United Nations now look bright.

The Chinese concession is, in fact, neither unexpected nor extensive. Peking was isolated in its demand for a continuation of peaceful nuclear explosions, and was expected to back down. In doing so, the Chinese, typically, have found a formula to save face. They insist that the issue be looked at again in ten years even while privately acknowledging that they will never find the necessary consensus to reopen the issue.

China, nevertheless, is hoping to get the best price for its offer, especially on the sensitive issue of verification. The Americans have pressed for the right of any country to demand an inspection on suspicion of cheating. Washington also wanted this to be conducted by "national technical means" — not only satellite observation but also human intelligence. China has set its face against any foreign monitors in its country — a position that the State Department reluctantly recognises as immovable — and wants to limit the use of satellite observation. More importantly, it is now pressing for a stipulation that at least two thirds of the 51 members of the treaty's international council must sanction an

inspection — making it very unlikely. The West wants a majority only of those members present at the meeting at which an inspection is requested. Both sides have signalled willingness to compromise on a figure of about 30.

More vexed, however, is the argument on the remaining sticking point, the entry of the CTBT into force. Here the difficulty is posed not by China but by India. The West wants the treaty to take effect after signature and ratification by the five nuclear powers — America, Russia, China, Britain and France — and the three "threshold" powers of India, Pakistan and Israel. But no government in Delhi appears ready to sacrifice any advantage over Pakistan. Indian negotiators have indicated that they would not oppose the treaty going to the General Assembly even before their signature. But the entire treaty might never come into force if it has to wait for Indian ratification. The signature of the other non-nuclear states is of far less importance; most, in any case, are already bound by regional non-proliferation treaties. The West may soon have to decide what to do if the Indians procrastinate indefinitely.

The treaty has taken years to negotiate. One by one, Western nuclear powers, which earlier insisted that testing was essential to ensure the reliability and credibility of their deterrents, have had a change of heart. France was ready to sign only after its last controversial series of tests; China has now made a similar pledge. The bulk of the work has been done. There is some quibbling — again by India — about the treaty's preamble. But with determination and political will, the Geneva negotiators, models in patient persistence, will soon be able to send their amended texts to the printers.

OLD BOOKS FOR YOUNG

If children's book sales are stagnant: blame the books

Children's literature is a recent phenomenon. Before the 19th century, children — banished to the nursery until their awkward adolescence — were not presumed to be possessed of any individuality of thought or experience. No books were written to entertain them. Though young George, grown tired of his rocking horse, might have raided some illustrated fable or popular ballad for amusement, the only literature directed towards him would have been strictly instructional or of a primly moralistic nature. Rousseau even declared that all the nature. Rousseau even declared that all the nature. Rousseau even declared that all the nature.

But with the Victorian age came a dramatic expansion of the literary canon. Edward Lear, Lewis Carroll, Robert Louis Stevenson and Rudyard Kipling overturned dull decorum behind the green baize door. Imagination and adventure made morality more palatable. A profitable specialist market was opened up which publishers have jostled to occupy ever since.

At its best, children's literature bridges the divide between child and adult. Several of Britain's best contemporary authors — Penelope Lively, Jane Gardam, Mary West — have written for children as well as adults. Talented professionals such as Roald Dahl, Leon Garfield, Joan Aiken and Nina Bayden have explored timeless and often complex issues with imagination, levity and

literature as it is in that of adults. Wordsworth points out that he was "twice five years or less" when his mind first opened "to the charm of words in tuneless order" and phrases "chosen for delight". The greatest children's authors realise that reading aloud must be relished by both generations. In many households the bedtime story is the only opportunity for a child to enjoy the undivided attention of parents.

But in an age where the printed page has to compete with screen and disc, publishers are struggling to keep children's literature a going concern. A report published yesterday suggests that sales are stagnating. In an attempt to boost turnover, publishing houses recruit famous personalities to their lists. It is not for the quality of its prose that parents have bought *Budgie the Little Helicopter* for their bemused children.

In their efforts to increase sales, publishers are now trying to prise open new markets. They discovered teenagers in the Sixties. But this "market" was offered mostly sorry fare. Books conceived for the turbulence of youth attempted to tackle contemporary issues — racism, divorce or drug addiction. All too often such "relevance" came at the expense of imagination.

Good literature is enduring. In the modern world, where children are as pressed for time as adults, they should be encouraged to read what is most worthwhile — even if it was first marketed generations ago.

Proper function of European Court

From Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC

Sir, It is a shame to see Lord Tebbit misdirecting and muddling himself about the European Court and the European Union (letter, June 8; see also letter, June 5).

The principle of the supremacy of European law was made quite clear in the European Court of Justice's case law before the United Kingdom joined the Common Market. That principle was also plainly recognised and given necessary effect by Parliament when enacting Section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972.

The ECJ has not concerned itself with the treatment of pregnant women. What actually happened was that the UK Government accepted, in English judicial review proceedings, that the exclusion of employment in the Armed Forces from the scope of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 was in breach of the EEC Equality Directive, to which the UK has been party for some twenty years.

Lord Tebbit regrets that equal pay and equal treatment for men and women are guaranteed by EC law, because of his conviction that the European Union should not be concerned with social progress. But his political disagreement with the Council of Ministers for having signed up to such a policy is not a matter for which he can fairly criticise the ECJ.

With Lord Tebbit, I had the privilege of serving on the Lords inter-governmental conference sub-committee, whose report in November 1995 rejected the criticism of the ECJ made by some witnesses for being too activist. On the contrary, our report, to which he was party, contained a strong expression of confidence in the ECJ's record.

I share Lord Tebbit's desire for Parliament to strengthen the protection of the rights and freedoms of the people of this country. He should therefore support moves to make the European Convention on Human Rights enforceable in our own courts, so as to reduce the need to have recourse to the other European Court — in Strasbourg.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY LESTER,
House of Lords,
June 8.

From Mr Francis Bennion

Sir, As a parliamentary draftsman and textbook writer, I have spent most of my professional life wrestling with the need, in the interests of democracy, to devise and apply legislative formulas in a way which precisely transmits the legislator's intention. Under the British system, these are scrupulously applied by the court of construction. That is not the ECJ's way.

The Francovich decision, cited by your correspondents of June 5 in defence of the European Court of Justice, is just one of many examples. By it the ECJ ruled that in certain cases a government which, for whatever reason (good or bad), has failed to implement an EU directive must pay compensation to individual citizens. That tremendously important rule, potentially involving payments out of taxpayers' money totalling many millions of pounds, was never laid down by any EU treaty. It was manufactured out of thin air by the ECJ.

Reproducing a famous dictum by Viscount Simonds when Lord Chancellor (see *Magnor & St Mellons RDC v Newport Corp* [1952] AC 189 at 190), I would describe this long-sustained conduct of the ECJ as "a naked usurpation of the legislative function under a thin guise of interpretation". It is time it was stopped.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS BENNION,
56 Kolokotroni Street,
Pissouri 4607,
Limassol, Cyprus,
June 6.

'Flying' bishops

From Canon Gerald Hudson

Sir, In the second century St Ignatius of Antioch wrote: "Let nothing pertaining to the Church be done apart from the bishop. And let that Eucharist be considered valid which is under the bishop or him to whom he commits it. Where the bishop appears there let the people be."

The primary function of a bishop is that of being a focal point of Christian unity. But now we read of the appointment of bishops who are to minister specifically to disaffected congregations who will not accept the ordination of women.

But this is to act as though the Church of England were a sect. And to ignore the fact that its structure is bound up, not with congregations but with provinces, dioceses and parishes. It is historically the Church of all the English people and bishops are the symbolic expression of this territorial commitment.

It is therefore actually scandalous that those who refuse to receive the Sacrament at the hands of their own diocesan bishop should be able to look elsewhere for episcopal ministrations.

In its effort to accommodate difference the Church has succeeded only in institutionalising disunity.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD HUDSON,
10 Medina Avenue,
Whistable, Kent,
June 8.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Election of UN Secretary-General

From Mr Alexander Borg Olivier

Sir, The forthcoming election of the UN Secretary-General is of critical importance and the world certainly needs an effective United Nations with outstanding leadership. Contrary to what your leading article, "Change the UN guard" (June 5), states, Dr Boutros Ghali has ably led the organisation through the most complex and turbulent years since its establishment.

He has done more than others in reforming and streamlining it and succeeded in bringing all parts of the system to work more effectively, particularly in the areas of economic and social development.

Dr Boutros Ghali's political judgment is not "erratic" as your leader states. He cannot be blamed in situations where impossible mandates were entrusted to the UN by the Security Council without the necessary resources to carry them out.

His report, *An Agenda for Peace* (1992), was bold with imaginative proposals for peacekeeping, peacemaking and peace building. It was widely recognised as a major contribution to the debate on international peace and security.

As far as diplomatic skills are concerned the Secretary-General is personally engaged in crises involving the UN. He has appointed special envoys to deal with crisis situations on the ground and he and his senior aides stay in close contact. The Security Council is kept fully informed on all relevant developments.

Dr Boutros Ghali's initiatives during the past five years include major conferences convened by the UN since 1992 on environment, human rights, population, social development, the advancement of women and human settlements.

Expert witnesses

From Mr James A. Sargeant

Sir, I sympathise with Geoffrey Hartwell's dilemma (letter, June 6; see also letters, May 30, June 4). When considering the evidence of an expert witness should one look sceptically on those trained in the "art" of giving it? I say yes, but no more so than one should be properly sceptical of all evidence advanced by one side in the course of an adversarial process.

What distinguishes "good" expert training from the bad is a proper emphasis on the ethics and responsibilities of the expert, and refinement of the skills of accurate and clear communication, rather than tuition in the techniques of manipulation and camouflage.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES A. SARGEANT,
(Director of Legal Services),
Currie & Brown Group,
11 Queen Anne Street, W1,
June 6.

Hepatitis C

From the Chairman of the Haemophilia Society

Sir, Mr Alf Morris, MP (article, June 6), admirably highlights the shocking inaction of the Government in the case of over 3,000 people with haemophilia who have been infected with hepatitis C as a result of their National Health Service treatment.

Hepatitis C can cause chronic liver disease, cirrhosis, liver cancer and even death. Over 50 people with haemophilia have died already.

It is the second major tragedy to affect the haemophilia community in recent years, the first being the infection of over 1,200 people with haemophilia with HIV.

The parallels between the two infections are very clear: both were caused by NHS treatment; both are blood borne, both infections took place in the same time period; both infections can devastate the lives of those infected.

The difference between the two is that in the case of HIV the Govern-

ment acted compassionately and provided help; for those with hepatitis C no help has yet been made available.

We are not seeking to apportion blame, we are simply asking for help: financial — to enable those infected to be able to plan for the future of their families; and medical — to research into treatment for this virus and to ensure that treatments are made available.

To ensure that a tragedy of this kind does not happen again, the Government should make funds available to pay for the new haemophilia treatments — recombinant products — that do not use human plasma and hence do not carry the same risks of viral infection.

People are suffering and dying now as a result of their NHS treatment. There is a strong moral case for the Government to act.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN A. SMITH,
Hardwicke Building,
New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
June 6.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH L. T. HUDSON,
The Coach House,
New Road,
Northchurch, Berkhamsted,
Hertfordshire,
June 7.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH L. T. HUDSON,
The Coach House,
New Road,
Northchurch, Berkhamsted,
Hertfordshire,
June 7.

From Mr Alan A. Smith

Sir, Mr Hartwell should, as I am sure he does, concentrate on the substance of the expert evidence being given in his court and, unless credibility is in issue, ignore the style in which the witness delivers it.

That way he need not be unduly concerned whether the expert looks him in the eye and speaks clearly and confidently as a result of training, or is a nervous wreck, as many excellent witnesses (including experts) tend to be.

Having said that, I can see no objection to his asking an expert witness whether he or she has been trained to give evidence where the issue between the experts is finely balanced and he must make a decision as to whose evidence he prefers.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN A. SMITH,
Hardwicke Building,
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June 6.

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Yours faithfully,
ALAN TANNER,
Chairman,
The Haemophilia Society,
123 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1,
June 7.

From Wing Officer E. M. Hole

Sir, My husband and I married in 1962, while we were both regular serving officers. He was allowed to "buy in" to achieve the half, as opposed to the third, of the widow's pension. In consequence, if he dies first I get one half of his pension, but if I die first he does not get anything at all of mine.

Yours sincerely,
ELIZABETH HOLE,
Palmer's Close,
South Petherton, Somerset,
June 6.

From Mr Robert Allen

Sir, Let us not overlook the fact that Members of Parliament legislated in their own interests in 1965 to ensure that the widow of a member would be entitled to a pension regardless of the date of death or of the marriage.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT ALLEN,
45 Giffers House,
London Road,
Hook, Hampshire,
June 6.

Business letters, page 31

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Here's a toast unto Her Majesty

From Mr Mark Lomas

Sir, This Tuesday, June 11, 1996, represents an historical milestone of some significance.

Queen Elizabeth I came to the throne on November 17, 1558, at the age of 25. She died on March 23, 1603, shortly before her 70th birthday. She reigned for 44 years and 126 days.

Queen Elizabeth II came to the throne on February 6, 1952, at the age of 25. On June 11, 1996, shortly after her 70th birthday, she will also have reigned for 44 years and 126 days.

So by Wednesday the Queen will have overtaken her namesake to become the fifth longest reigning English monarch.

In 2002 she will overtake Edward III, in 2008 Henry III and in 2012 George III, leaving only her great-great-grandmother ahead of her. Queen Victoria came to the throne on June 20, 1837, at the age of 18. She died on January 22, 1901, shortly before her 82nd birthday. She reigned for 63 years and 216 days.

Assuming the Queen lives until September 11, 2015, she will have reigned for 63 years and 217 days and will on that date become the longest reigning monarch in the whole of recorded English history. She will then be 89. There is no reason to think she will not achieve that. All of us who wish to see the monarchy secure for future generations very much hope that she will.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
MARK LOMAS,
Quaintree Hall,
Braunston, Oakham, Rutland,
June 7.

Summer exhibition

From the Secretary of the Royal Academy of Arts

Sir, The Summer Exhibition, "hung in such a dreadful way" (Isabel Carlisle's article, Arts, June 3), is illustrated with a photograph taken in 1993 of a particular wall of a particular room hung by Peter Blake, RA.

The way that room was hung was more a statement by Mr Blake than a specimen of what is normal at the RA today. To use it without comment to illustrate a piece about this year's exhibition gives a completely misleading impression.

Alas, the figures given by your reporter are also wrong. I wish the 1995 exhibition had been seen by 1.24 million visitors, but with only 140,000 it was still by far the most popular mixed show of contemporary art in the country.

I also wish it had raised £1.2 million for us: the truth was a more modest (but none the less welcome) £300,000.

Yours faithfully,
PIERS RODGERS,
Secretary,
Royal Academy of Arts,
Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1,
June 3.

From Mr Graham Galilee

Sir, Surely the charm and popularity of the Summer Exhibition is for a large number of those who attend, because those artists who "wouldn't be seen dead there" are not there.

It may not be hung as some would wish, but at least you can see which is the right way up.

Yours truly,
GRAHAM GALILEE,
Port Cottage,
Barnham,
Richmond, North Yorkshire,
June 6.

Young Winston

From the Headmistress of St George's School, Ascot

Sir, I noted with some amusement the report (June 6) on the nine-year-old Winston Churchill. This establishment continues to flourish but in a different guise: St George's has been a girls' public school from the early years of this century. Our reports nowadays are rather more informative and the pond in the wood in which Churchill would have had a daily dip no longer exists: we have a heated pool.

I remain, etc.
ANTHONY M. GRIGGS,
Headmistress,
St George's School,
Ascot, Berkshire,
June 6.

From Mr John Symons

Sir, There is a striking similarity between Winston Churchill's school report and those of a younger outlaw, William Brown. Richard Crompton noted extracts from the latter's school reports over the years, but even he did not rise to the heights of making "decided progress" in diligence, while endorsing that his conduct remained "exceedingly bad".

William, like Winston, shone in history, and was captivated by the great sweep of England's past. The similarities continued after school. William began as something of a Liberal (*Pensions for Boys*), but became a Conservative for a while before ending up "sick of politics altogether. There isn't any sense in 'em. I'd sooner be a Red Indian any day" (*William, Prime Minister*).

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SYMONS,
28 Thornwood Road, SE13,
June 6.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 10: Today is the Seventy Fifth Birthday of the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, this morning opened an exhibition at Windsor Guildhall to mark His Royal Highness's Seventy Fifth Birthday and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the Royal County of Berkshire (Mr Philip Wroughton) and the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (Councillor Mrs Andy Sheldon).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 10: The Princess Royal today visited Birmingham and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Midlands (Mr Robert Taylor).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, SENSE — the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, this afternoon visited 165 Castle Square, Wexley Castle.

The Princess Royal, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, later visited Oxford Blue, 60-62 Constitution Hill.

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, this evening attended the West Midlands Appeal Gala Concert at the National Exhibition Centre.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
June 10: The Prince of Wales, Patron, the Macmillan Nurse Appeal, this evening gave a Reception at Highgrove House for the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund.

Luncheons

HM Government
Sir Nicholas Bonsor, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host yesterday at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House to bid farewell to Mr Royce Frith, QC, High Commissioner for Canada.

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayores of Westminster were the hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at Westminster Council House. Among those present were: The Deputy High Commissioner for South Africa, the Mayor of Greater Johannesburg and Mrs Mogase, Sir Sydney Samuelson, Miss Zaida Burchell, Miss Lucienne Blesdale, Mr Mark Bishop, Ms Sally Collinson, Mr Mark Galloway, Mr Jonathan Horne, Councillor Mrs Julia Hunt, Councillor Martin Jiggins, Councillor Nick Markham and Mr Trevor Osborne.

Baroness Fisher of Rednal
Baroness Fisher of Rednal was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at the House of Lords to mark the twenty-first anniversary of the International Institute of Risk and Safety Management. Professor Brian Toft was the speaker.

Reception

HM Government
Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, QC, Minister of State, Department of Trade and Industry, was the host at a reception given yesterday by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House to mark the CBI conference on Syria.

Admiral Council
Sir Patrick Duffy, Deputy Chairman of the Atlantic Council of the United Kingdom, and Mr Roger de Lacy Holmes, Deputy Master of the Admiralty, were the hosts at a reception given yesterday at the Admiralty by the Admiralty Council to mark the CBI conference on Syria.

Today's royal engagements

Prince Edward, as Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will attend a dinner to mark the fourth anniversary of the award at Guildhall at 7.10.

The Princess Royal as President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend the Industry and Commerce Group meeting at Buckingham Palace at 4.05. The President of the Association of Combined Youth Clubs, will visit the Young Lewisham Motor Workshop, 124 Kilmore Road, SE23, at 6.30; and Lewisham Youth and Community Centre, Lewisham Way, New Cross, SE14, at 7.20; and will visit Youth Action at Crofton School, Ramwood Road, Cufford, SE4, at 8.20.

Princess Margaret will open the Newhouse Business Park, Falkirk, at 12.45; and will open the Beehive Nursery for the children of staff at the Falkirk and District Royal Infirmary, at 2.10.

Princess Alexandra, as Patron of the Richmond Fellowship, will attend a reception to mark the opening of the St Charles project, Ladbroke Grove, at the fellowship's headquarters, Peacock House, 8 Addison Road, W14, at 3.30.

Dinner

London Parking Adjudicators
Mr Steven Norris, Minister for Transport, and Miss Pamela Long were the guests of honour at the first official dinner of the London Parking Adjudicators held last night at the Reform Club. Miss Pamela Sheppard, Chief Adjudicator, presided.

Meeting

Royal Overseas League
Mr Gerald Howarth was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Overseas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Miss Hazel Ellis presided.



The sculptor Doreen Kern with the bust of Anne Frank she has created for the Anne Frank Museum in Amsterdam. Thousands of British schools will take part in the first Anne Frank Day tomorrow

Mexico dig reveals whole old ball game

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

AS EUROPE succumbs to football fever, archaeologists in Mexico are celebrating a discovery that pushes back the history of the New World version by several centuries. While soccer cannot be traced back beyond the Middle Ages, the pre-Columbian ball game is 3,500 years old.

Its oldest court may be the earliest sporting facility in the world. The Aztec game of *tlatli* was remarked on by the Spanish conquistadors when they arrived in Mexico in 1519. Players used only their hips, thighs and elbows to propel a solid rubber ball at speed, bouncing it off two parallel buildings that formed the court.

That penalty was also found among the Maya, who were playing the game before the time of Christ. Courts of that age are known from Belize, while the famous but later example at Chichén Itzá has dramatic scenes of sacrifice that include beheading the losing captain.

The ancestry of the game had been traced back to 600 BC, with the discovery of three courts in the upper Grijalva basin of Chiapas, southeast Mexico, near the border with Guatemala. But a new find in the region has pushed its history back another 900 years.

The discovery at Paso de la Amada, near the Pacific coast, was announced at a Society for American Archaeology conference. Excavation of a large mound revealed the parallel structures of a court buried under erosion deposits.

The court was built in two stages, the first dating about 1500 BC. The two mounds were 74 and 78 metres (about 250 feet) long and 1.45 metres (4.7 ft) high, with a playing alley between them 6.8 metres (22 ft) wide. The construction is one of the largest ball courts known in pre-Columbian America.

Sloping "benches" on either side of the alley made the speeding ball shoot off at an angle, making it more difficult to play. Real-tennis players will know the feeling. It is calculated that 25 workers could have built the earthen mounds in 25 days of hard work. Within a century or so, the court was doubled in size by expansion of the mounds, although the playing alley remained the same width and was lengthened only slightly.

Warren Hill of British Columbia University told the conference in New Orleans: "Construction of a ball court created an important public ritual space for the community of Paso de la Amada."

He said that an emergent social elite could have used the rituals to assert a claim to power. Competition between different segments of the community, represented by their teams, would have unified separate groups while underlining the authority of the controlling chiefs.

The teams themselves probably consisted of four or five players. Maya vase paintings show two-side games on smaller courts than this, while the huge court at Chichén Itzá, the largest known, seems to have accommodated teams of six.

A version of the rubber-ball game still survives in Mexico, played on a court marked by lines on the ground. Although the elaborate costumes seen in pre-Columbian art have vanished, the athletic poses of the modern players match those of their precursors. The new find at Paso de la Amada suggests that the game was important from the beginnings of civilisation in ancient Mexico.

Broderers' Company
The Lord Mayor, Mr Alderman J.J. Chalmers, accompanied by Sheriff K. Ayers, was the principal guest at a dinner given last night at the Broderers' Company to mark the election of Mr B.E. Toye as Master, Mr S.G. Errington as Warden, and Mr A. H. Renter as Renter Warden. Among those present were: Mr Recorder G. Gray QC, Mr Murray Fox, the Master of the

Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company
The Master of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company, the Prime Warden of the Basketmakers' Company, the Master of the Scriveners' Company and Master of the Wheelwrights' Company.

Salter's Company
The following have been elected officers for the ensuing year: Master, Mr A. Dawkins; Upper Warden, Mr L.V. Stelli; Second Warden, Lord Rockley.

Anniversaries
BIRTHS: Ben Jonson, dramatist, Westminster, 1572; George Withers, poet, Brentwood, Hampshire, 1588; John Constable, painter, East Bergholt, Suffolk, 1776; Richard Strauss, composer, Munich, 1864; Azorin (José Martínez Ruiz), writer, Monóvar, Spain, 1874.

DEATHS: Roger Bacon, philosopher and education reformer, Oxford, 1292; James King of Scotland, 1460-85; murdered; Milltown, 1488; Francis Keith, Scottish mercenary, Castle of Inverurie, near Peterhead, 1696; Dugald Stewart, philosopher, Edinburgh, 1828; Klemens Metternich, statesman, Vienna, 1859; Billy "Bomber" Wells, British ace, 1919-1996; Alexander Kerensky, Prime Minister of Russia 1917, New York, 1970; John Wayne, film actor, California, 1979.

DEATHS
LAZARUS - Shirley Ann, on 9th June 1996, died suddenly after a short illness. Aged 60 years. Born in London. She was the wife of the late Mr C. Lazarus. She was a devoted mother and a loving wife. She was cremated at St John's Church, London. Donations to help the charity, St John's Church, London, 14th June 1996 at 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to help the charity, St John's Church, London, 14th June 1996 at 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to help the charity, St John's Church, London, 14th June 1996 at 3 pm. Family flowers only.

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.N.W. Brett and Miss G.L. Iroside
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Dr and Mrs Norman Brett, of Fernwood, Dorset, formerly Sheffield, and Gillian, daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Iroside, of Kilnarnock, Ayrshire.

Mr R.A. Ellis and Miss S.L. Darby
The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs John Ellis, of Bristol, and Mrs Christine Ellis, of London, and Sophia Laetitia, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Darby, of Keevil, Wiltshire.

Mr P. Gornall and Miss B.M.M. Hurst
The engagement is announced between Paul, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Gornall, of Fulwood, Preston, and Bridget, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Hurst, of Woodplumpton, Preston.

Mr S.M. Levy and Miss J.L. Cohen
The engagement is announced between Stuart, younger son of the late Mr Ralph Levy and of Mrs Collette Levy, of London, SW1, and Juliet, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Cohen, of Hampshire.

Mr D.E. Meadows and Miss P.R. Chalstry
The engagement is announced between David Edward, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Roger Meadows, of Bath, Somerset, and Penelope Ruth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Chalstry, of Haslemere, Surrey.

Mr J.J. Slater and Miss J.L. Ashworth
The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs J.C. Slater, of Great Harwood, Lancashire, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.P. Ashworth, of Crowthorn, Cheshire.

Mr T.G.N. Woodhouse and Miss E.D.R. Holland
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs Charles Woodhouse, of Guildford, and Emily, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Holland, of Winclesham, Surrey.

Mr Jean Alesi, racing driver, 32; Mr Tony Alcock, bowler, 41; Miss Diana Armitage, painter, 76; Mr John Aspinall, zoo owner, 70; Mr James Bostock, painter and engraver, 79; the Rev Dr Richard A. Burridge, Dean, King's College London, 41; Mr Michael Cavanagh, film director, 74; Lord Cameron of Lochroom, 65; Miss Cynthia Cooke, former Matron-in-Chief, QARNNS, 77; M. Jacques Chouteau, marine explorer, 86; Mr John Dyson, cricketer, 42; Lord Justice Evans, 62; Sir Marcus Fox, MP, 69; Mr Abdul Fugard, actor and playwright, 64; Sir Robert Gerken, former chairman, Plymouth Development Corporation, 64; Dame Beryl Grey, prima ballerina, 69; Mr J. Dundas Hamilton, former chairman, Wales City of London Properties, 77; Mrs Rachael Heyhoe Flint, cricketer, 57; Mr Alan Howarth, MP, 52; Mr Hugh Laurie, actor, 37; Mr Paul Mellon, former president, Washington National Gallery, 89; Mr Michael Meyer, writer, 75; Mr Anthony Nelson, MP, 48; Mrs Jennifer Pitman, racehorse trainer, 50; Mr Barry Porter, MP, 57; the Hon Sir Timothy Sainsbury, MP, 64; Mr J.W.R. Shakespeare, diplomat, 66; Mr Jackie Stewart, former racing driver, 57; Mr Richard Todd, actor, 77; Sir Gerard Vaughan, MP, 73; Mr Gene Wilder, actor, 61; General Sir Michael Wilkes, 56.

Memorial services
His Honour Alan Lipfriad
A memorial service for His Honour Alan Lipfriad was held yesterday evening at the New London Synagogue, St John's Wood. Rabbi Dr Louis Jacobs officiated, assisted by Mr George Rothschild, Lord Justice Beldam gave an address.

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Marriages

Mr A.Q.B. Chaplin and Miss E.K. Clough
The marriage took place on June 1, 1996 at St John the Evangelist, Telford, Cheshire, of Mr Alexander Clough, younger son of Mr and Mrs B.A. Chaplin, of Knutsford, Cheshire, and Miss Emma Clough, only daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Clough, of Prestwich, Lancashire.

Mr D.A. Delafosse and Miss K. Hiranabe
The marriage took place on June 8, 1996, at St James Garlickhythe, City of London, of Mr Dominick Delafosse, elder son of Mr Simon Delafosse, of London, and of Dr Angela Delafosse, of Venice, to Miss Kyoko Hiranabe, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Hiroaki Hiranabe, of Japan. The Rev John Paul officiated and Mr Clive Gilbert read the lesson.

Mr M.S. Gardner and Miss E. Paterson
The marriage took place on May 25, at Priory Church, Christchurch, between Mr Martin Stephen Gardner, son of Mr M. Gardner and the late Mr M. Gardner, of Bournemouth, and Miss Evelyn Paterson, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Paterson, also of Bournemouth.

Mr J.E.R. Morgan and Miss N.C. MacDonnell
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 25, at St Michael de Rupe, Brenton, Devon, of Mr John Morgan, son of Sir John Morgan and of the Hon Mrs Flora Morgan, to Miss Natasha MacDonnell, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Randal MacDonnell. The Rev Robert and the Rev Diana O'Brien officiated.

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BRIEFINGS

The newly formed London branch of the Institute of Business Counsellors holds its inaugural meeting at Bowling House, Northfields, on June 17, with a guest panel consisting of Stephen Alambritas, of the Federation of Small Businesses, Rod Cooke, of Midland Bank, Rhonda Hamilton, of *Living South* magazine, and Catherine Swainson, of Kingston Chamber of Commerce. The cost is £8, including a buffet and wine.

□ A computer centre where small businesses can try software programs has been opened by Business Links Gloucestershire at Shurdington, near Cheltenham Tel: (01452 509562).

□ Self-employed people may be eligible for tax rebates after a change in the tax treatment of certain insurance policy premiums. Geoff Edwards, tax expert at Grant Thornton, says the Inland Revenue now accepts that policies to cover the cost of additional staff or other business expenses in case of illness can be set against profits. Claims can be backdated for six years.

□ Nearly one third of companies with turnovers ranging between £1 million and £10 million expect to increase payrolls throughout this year, according to research by National Westminster Bank. The survey found this was mainly because of domestic demand, which is expected to grow for the rest of this year and early next year, but the export market is expected to weaken.

Rodney Hobson talks to a man whose skills have been specially modelled to create the desired illusion

AS THE pickaxe swung down on the paving slab, watchers of the television serial *Brookside* waited with bated breath for a body to be discovered under the patio. Philip Anderson, an expert in special effects, was more interested in events above ground.

He says: "For dramatic effect, the producers wanted shards of stone to fly up into the air as the pickaxe struck. That does not actually happen. The stone will crack, but you do not get shards. I had to design a pavement slab that sent up enough shards to be visually pleasing in macro close-up. I made 25 slabs for this one take. It took quite a lot of working out. The pickaxe was operated mechanically... I had to calculate the perfect angle to get the maximum effect."

Until he works on a project, Mr Anderson does not know how long it will take. He says: "Some jobs are very quick and look a million dollars. Other shots take a week and a half to work out for just a few seconds on film."

Setting up the right business can also involve long, careful preparation. Mr Anderson, who lives at



Philip Anderson putting the finishing touches to a werewolf's head at his studio at Petts Wood

Petts Wood, Kent, first took an interest in special effects when he was 13 and took animated super eight film of models he had made in the garden shed. After a one-year foundation course at Ravensbourne College of Art and Design, Bromley, he studied animation and film at Croydon College for three years. He then worked as a freelance in the special effects industry, acquiring skills and getting his name known.

Mr Anderson set up his own company, Special Effects, last November with help from Solotek, the South London Training and Enterprise Agency Trust. He learnt how to write a business plan and took a course on bookkeeping.

He has worked from home to keep down overheads but hires studios for larger assignments and hopes to move into a small industrial unit this year. As the business

has taken off, he has provided work for a semi-permanent colleague for almost all his assignments and for other freelance specialists.

Many special effects involve blowing things up and Mr Anderson has had an explosives licence for four years. "Explosives are safe in the right hands," he says, "if handled properly, they are safer than driving down the road."

□ Special Effects: 01689 837251

Bank of Ireland takes initiative on Anglo-Irish trade

BY BRIAN COLLETT

A CAMPAIGN to stimulate trade between British small businesses and customers in Ireland has been launched by the Bank of Ireland.

The bank has taken part in a British Government trade initiative aimed at the Irish Republic since 1994, but is following this up with its own campaign.

The Republic is Britain's seventh-largest market, and British exports to it rose by 12 per cent in 1994-95. The Department of Trade and Industry estimates that the Irish buy £2,250 worth of British products per head annually. "Yet many companies think there is not a market there," said Grant Shannon, the DTI's Ireland export promoter.

There is already a flourishing electronics trade between the two countries. British companies send components to small businesses in southwest Ireland for assembly, and the Irish companies send back the assembled goods.

The Bank of Ireland and Allied Irish Banks are the main sponsors of seminars held throughout Britain to encourage small businesses to trade with their Irish counterparts and form partnerships.

The seminars, run by the DTI through Business Links, are at-

tended by a commercial officer from the British Embassy in Dublin, a trade promoter, and another DTI or Business Link official. When the Bank of Ireland sponsors a seminar, it sends a branch manager with Irish knowledge.

The bank's own drive this year includes targeting its branches in the Republic and Northern Ireland, to tell business customers the benefits of trading with British firms.

□ Seminar details: 01433 63782



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NEWS

Goldsmith deal for Euro-sceptics

Conservative MPs are being advised today to back a Commons Bill proposing a referendum on Europe to reduce the threat of a general election challenge from Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party.

In a move that seems certain to stir the Tory turmoil over Europe, supporters of Bill Cash's Referendum Bill reminded colleagues that Sir James has promised not to put up candidates against MPs who favour a plebiscite. Page 1

The Queen beats an Elizabethan record

The Queen becomes the fifth longest reigning English monarch tomorrow when she overtakes a record set by her Tudor namesake. In 1,000 years only four other monarchs have been on the throne longer than the present Queen, who will have to wait until 2002 to overtake the next record. Page 1

Ulster talks battle

John Major struggled to keep Unionists at the all-party talks after the opening day was disrupted by objections to former Senator George Mitchell's role as chairman. Page 1

Girl author

An American schoolgirl is on her way to making her first million after a transatlantic publishing deal for her novel, set in England, which has won £400,000 in pre-publication rights. Page 1

'Mad cow' dispute

Experts were divided over the risks to public health from the disposal on land of the remains of cattle slaughtered in the "mad cow" cull. Page 2

Falklands 'waste'

The widow of the Falklands war hero Colonel "H" Jones said that she was saddened by a Channel 4 documentary, which suggests that her husband's death was a waste. Page 3

Computer threat

Children risk having their cultural heritage swept away by the flood of American computer software which is already replacing books in schools. Page 5

Futuristic surgery

A vision of the GP surgery of the future in which patients would choose from a menu of services provided by different specialists was unveiled. Page 6

Scotland rejects the satanic mills

Scotland's footballers cheered British hearts with a 0-0 draw against Holland but Scottish Television admitted defeat over the Euro 96 signature tune. Protests of English bias led to hasty editing to remove the hymn *Jerusalem* for matches involving the Scotland team. Also out are video clips of Dover's white cliffs and of Bobby Moore. Page 1

Friendly bombs

RAF chiefs are considering developing a special peacekeeping bomb that could be used in an operation "short of war" to knock out a tank without harming nearby civilians. Page 8

Holiday claims

The travel industry is facing a huge rise in claims for compensation as holidaymakers pursue far-fetched legal actions. Page 9

Yeltsin pop

A wall of loud-speakers boomed "vote next Sunday" as about 30,000 youngsters rocked at a concert sponsored by President Yeltsin's campaign aimed at appealing to youth. Page 12

Benedetti jailed

Carlo de Benedetti, chairman of Olivetti and one of Italy's best known buccaneering business tycoons, was sentenced to four-and-a-half years in prison by the Court of Appeal. Page 13

Israel ambush

Israel's Likud Government, still to be formed after the recent elections, faced its first security crisis after five Israeli soldiers were killed in an ambush in southern Lebanon. Page 14

Dole bows out

Bob Dole today ends a remarkable 35-year congressional career that began the same snowy January that Dwight Eisenhower left the Oval Office. Page 15



Rival Scottish and Dutch fans in party mood before their teams drew 0-0 in the European championships yesterday. Page 52

BUSINESS

Airlines: British Airways is linking with American Airlines to form the world's largest group in a deal that is likely to lead to the ending of restrictions on foreign airlines using British airspace. Page 27

Nuclear fleet: British Energy has told investors that high dividends could be threatened by inflation or tougher regulation. Page 27

Economy: Industry price pressures have continued to ease suggesting that there is little danger of inflation reigniting in the manufacturing sector, although high street spending accelerates. Page 27

Markets: The FTSE 100 closed up 22 at 3728.8. Sterling's index fell from 86.3 to 85.8 after falls from \$1.5418 to \$1.5317 and DM2.3656 to DM2.3522. Page 30

SPORT

Football: Andy Goram, the Scotland goalkeeper, was in superlative form as his team battled to a goalless draw with Holland in the European championship. Page 52

Crickets: Darren Gough, the out-of-favour England fast bowler, took five wickets for 36 to help put Yorkshire at the top of the county table. Page 46

Rugby union: The future of the five nations' championship hangs in the balance as the Rugby Football Union confirmed it is going ahead with an independent agreement with BSkyB. Page 52

Racing: Although the crowd at Epsom for the Derby increased by 2,000 compared with the previous year, the television figures plummeted by 40 per cent. Page 45

ARTS

Diver on show: At the Palazzo Grassi in Venice the revelatory Western Greeks exhibition includes the Paestum Diver, the only surviving painting from the Golden Age of Ancient Greece. Page 42

Dublin's fair gallery: The National Gallery of Ireland has reopened after a substantial facelift that has allowed it to exhibit 300 more pictures. Page 42

On stage: The Royal Exchange in Manchester has revived Stanley Houghton's *Hindle Wakes*, which shocked 1912 audiences with feminine independence. Page 43

On track: The Royal Academy of Music's decision to mount a festival of film music is symptomatic of a new surge of interest in movie soundtracks. Page 44

FEATURES

Day two — The Family: Sisters fight together, brothers are more easy going, says Alice Thomas Ellis. Valerie Grove describes her life with teenage daughters; Dr Thomas Stuttaford asks why the role of the father has been so much downgraded. Pages 16, 17

LAW

New approach: Many drug offenders in America are now referred to drug courts, where the judges decide on and supervise treatment. Should we try them? Page 35

Worrying decline: Three experts set out their feelings about the Crown Prosecution Service. Page 37

THE PAPERS

The sinister game of hide and seek being played out in Rangoon between a little lady who is fighting for freedom and the top military brass who cannot shut her up, illustrates how far times have changed. Thirty years ago, Ne Win could plunge his kingdom into ruin by cutting it off from the rest of the planet. His successors must live with the awkward presence of Aung San Suu Kyi. — *Le Monde*

The broad support of the peace effort by the people of Britain and Ireland reinforced their leaders' decision to overcome the setback and move on. Prospects for a permanent reconciliation are pretty good. — *Washington Post*

Colin Morris, playwright: Baroness Stedman, former Under-Secretary for the Environment and Lords SDP leader. Page 21

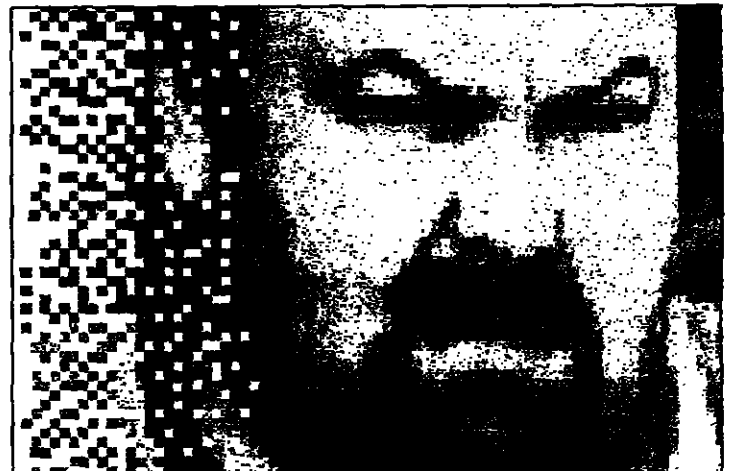
European Court: UN; the Queen: hepatitis. Page 17

TOMORROW

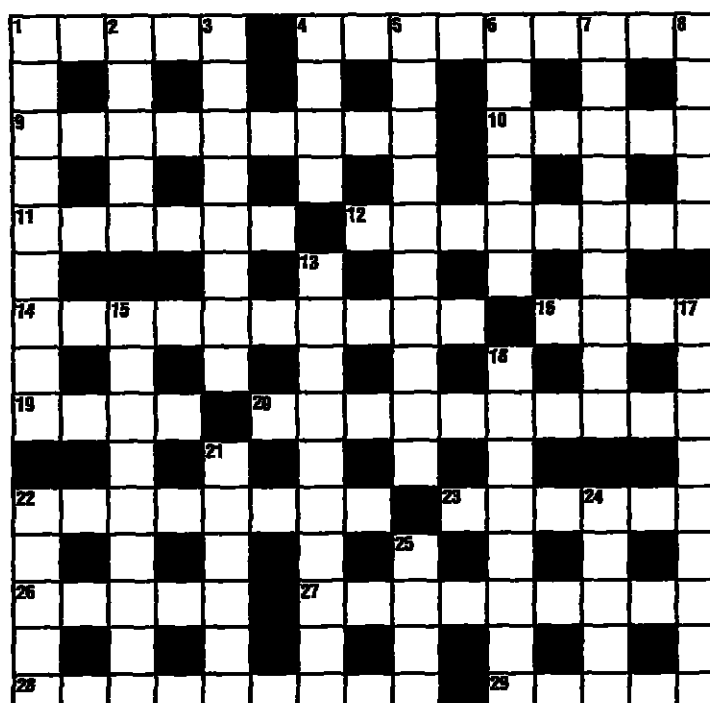
IN THE TIMES

INTERFACE
If the face fits — how computers can help to track down criminals. Plus: Win two tickets to the Euro 96 final

FASHION
Something afoot: should a woman go bare-legged?



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,191



- ACROSS**
- 1 Girl once employed in mill (5).
 - 4 Dress up for short canoe trip round city (9).
 - 9 Text had eccentric in it — this one? (3,6).
 - 10 Show the way ahead, say (5).
 - 11 Biblical scholar and teacher do some incisive marking (6).
 - 12 Realised movement is related to the stars (8).
 - 14 Friendly foreigner I help along when in trouble (10).
 - 16 Hands over in exchange (4).
 - 19 Work? Up to a certain point (4).
 - 20 It's not impossible I'm qualified to take a drink (10).
 - 22 19 incarcerated in vile French prison (8).
 - 23 Churchman puts you, so to speak, in a box (6).
 - 26 Having no money, family ejected from house? (5).
- DOWN**
- 27 Cut out a wind instrument that's peripheral for swing (9).
 - 28 After the pile-up I name unknown correctly (9).
 - 29 Peak performance you mostly conducted the wrong way (5).
 - 1 Surprised reactions get driver going again (4-5).
 - 2 Obtain in competition a dire bottom position (5).
 - 3 Dated publication, such as one of Orwell's novels? (8).
 - 4 Quote it in the church (4).
 - 5 Teasing call about erratic fliers (10).
 - 6 Weapon for soldiers needing support (6).
 - 7 Net result of a spinner's delivery? (9).
 - 8 Girl that is missing, somewhere in Africa (5).
 - 13 Small measure of protection for sewer (10).
 - 15 Writer or mighty man? (9).
 - 17 Gradually bit something to eat (9).
 - 18 Attempt to support river trade (8).
 - 21 Signalling, of course, a reversal in approach (3-3).
 - 22 Line runs into station in European city (5).
 - 24 Decoration in a bedroom? (5).
 - 25 Passion acceptable in the young (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,190

FOREARM GATCHUP
U O R U O A E R
I S M E T I N G S
A T S I D E
T O W N E R T H R E E F O U
N S O H E D E
W H I P P E R S N A P P E R
U O W P P S
S Q U A D R O N L E A D E R
E P A R E T M A
F O R B I D D E N H A B I T
U O L D E R T
L O O S E E L E C T R O D E
L T U N T I O N
Y A S H M A K T A C K L E D

Times Two Crossword, page 52

THE WEATHER

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London: 701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex: 702
Dorset, Hampshire & Wilt: 703
Devon & Cornwall: 704
Wilt, Gloucestershire, Somerset: 705
Berkshire, Bucks, Oxford: 706
Bedfordshire & Herts: 707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs: 708
West Mid & Shropshire & Glam: 709
Shropshire & Wilt: 710
Central Midlands: 711
East Midlands: 712
Lincolnshire & Humbers: 713
Dyfed & Powys: 714
Gwynedd & Clwyd: 715
Aberdeen, Dundee, Perth: 716
W & S Yorks & Dales: 717
N & E England: 718
Cumbria & Lancashire: 719
S W Scotland: 720
S E Scotland: 721
E Central Scotland: 722
Glasgow & E Highlands: 723
N W Scotland: 724
Cumbria, Lancashire & Shropshire: 725
N Ireland: 726
Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheapest rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks: 731
Areas within M25: 732
East of M25 (Surrey, Bucks, Bedfordshire, Herts): 733
M25 London Orbital only: 734
National traffic and roadworks: 735
National motorways: 736
West Country: 737
Wales: 738
Birmingham: 739
East Angles: 740
North-west England: 741
North-east England: 742
Scotland: 743
Northern Ireland: 744
AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheapest rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday, highest day temp: Sheppards, Devon, 25C (77F); lowest day temp: Scarborough, 12C (54F); highest rainfall: Exeter, 15.2mm; lowest rainfall: London, 0.5mm.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 24.5% of the new material for UK newspapers in 1995.

FORECAST

General: Wales and western areas of England will be wet at first. The east will start dry with some pale sunshine. The rain in the west will extend eastwards, but the south east will see only light patchy rain. Meanwhile, the west will turn brighter towards evening.

Scotland and Northern Ireland: will have rain at first in the west, turning brighter later in the day. The northeast corner of Scotland will be dry at first, with rain later.

London, SE England, E Angles, Central S England, E Midlands: rain at first, patchy rain, mainly light, later. Wind southwesterly moderate to fresh. Warm. Max 23C (73F).

E, NW, Cent N, NE England, W Midlands, Lakes: dry with some brightness at first, rain spreading from the west for a time. Wind southwesterly moderate to fresh. Max 20C (68F).

SW England, Wales: rain for a time, becoming brighter with showers later. Wind fresh southwesterly. Max 20C (68F).

London, SE England, E Angles, Central S England, E Midlands: rain at first, patchy rain, mainly light, later. Wind southwesterly moderate to fresh. Warm. Max 23C (73F).

E, NW, Cent N, NE England, W Midlands, Lakes: dry with some brightness at first, rain spreading from the west for a time. Wind southwesterly moderate to fresh. Max 20C (68F).

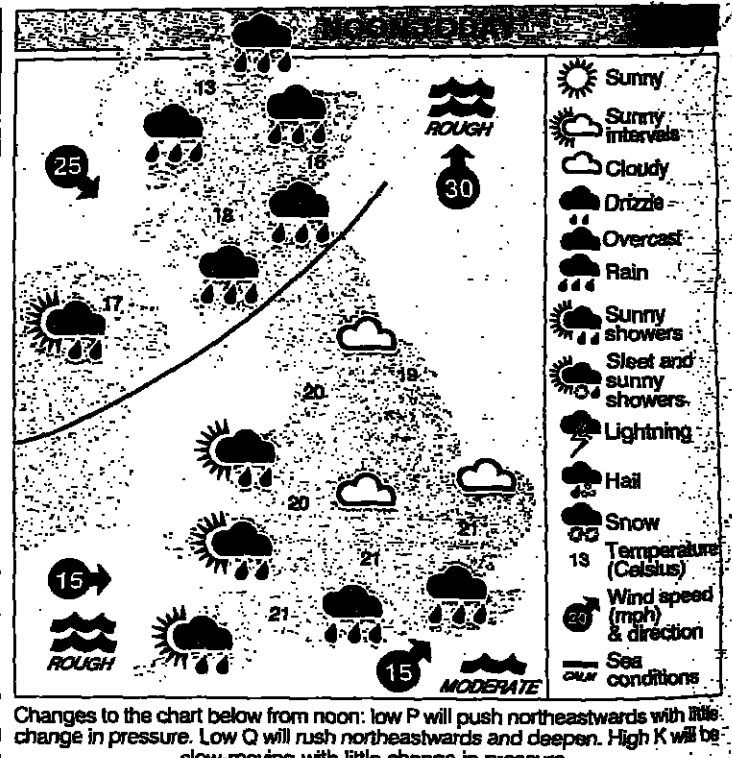
SW England, Wales: rain for a time, becoming brighter with showers later. Wind fresh southwesterly. Max 20C (68F).

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

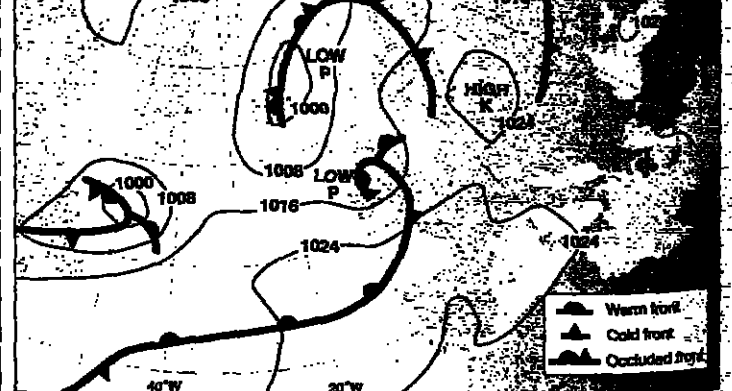
Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain	Max	Min
Aberdeen	5.3	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Dundee	5.3	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Perth	5.3	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
London	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Manchester	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Birmingham	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Cardiff	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Glasgow	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Edinburgh	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Belfast	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Sheffield	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Nottingham	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Leeds	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Sheff	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Nottingham	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Leeds	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02

ABROAD

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain	Max	Min
Madrid	28	79	1	88	31	18
Paris	28	82	1	88	31	18
Rome	28	82	1	88	31	18
Amsterdam	28	82	1	88	31	18
Brussels	28	82	1	88	31	18
Frankfurt	28	82	1	88	31	18
Munich	28	82	1	88	31	18
Vienna	28	82	1	88	31	18
Zurich	28	82	1	88	31	18
Stockholm	28	82	1	88	31	18
Helsinki	28	82	1	88	31	18
Tallinn	28	82	1	88	31	18
Riga	28	82	1	88	31	18
Warsaw	28	82	1	88	31	18
Berlin	28	82	1	88	31	18
Prague	28	82	1	88	31	18
Bratislava	28	82	1	88	31	18
Vienna	28	82	1	88	31	18
Zurich	28	82	1	88	31	18



Changes to the chart below from noon: low P will push northwards with little change in pressure. Low Q will push northwards and deepen. High K will be slow-moving with little change in pressure.



TODAY

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain	Max	Min
London	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Manchester	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Birmingham	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Cardiff	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Glasgow	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Edinburgh	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Belfast	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Sheffield	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Nottingham	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Leeds	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain	Max	Min
London	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Manchester	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Birmingham	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Cardiff	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Glasgow	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Edinburgh	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Belfast	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Sheffield	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Nottingham	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02
Leeds	12.8	0.01	20	88	15	0.02

Average top pay at Stoy £92,000

By Jason Nisse

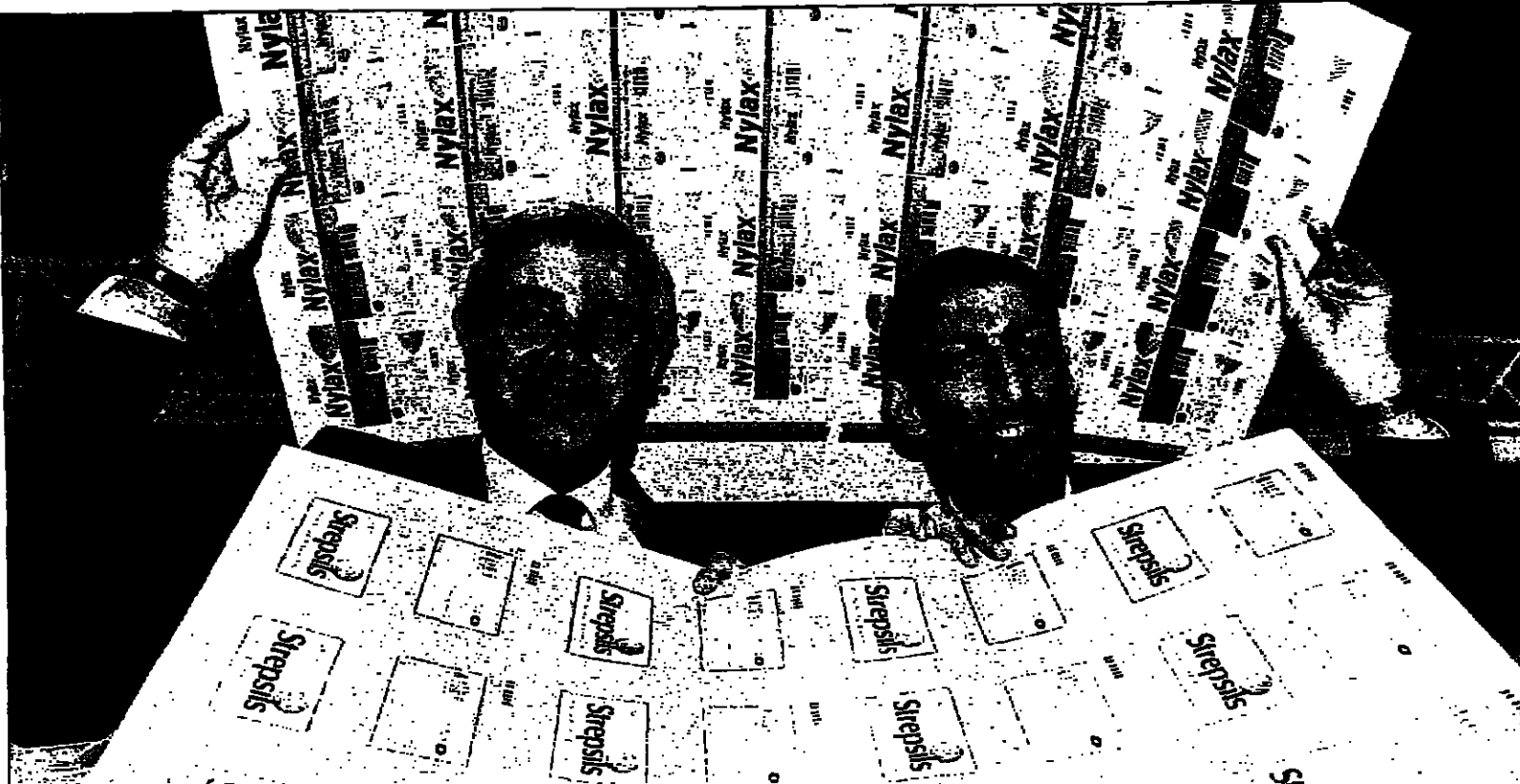
BDO Stoy Hayward, the largest of the middle-ranking accountancy firms, reported yesterday that the average remuneration of its partners was £92,000 last year, a little over half that of KPMG, the only big six firm that discloses its figures.

The income of its senior partner, Adrian Martin, was £275,000, compared with a figure of £740,000 for Colin Sharran, the KPMG chief. This is the first time that Stoy has published a full breakdown on partners' income. KPMG published an annual report after a decision to turn its auditing side from a partnership into a public limited company.

Mr Martin said that Stoy had no plans to incorporate but felt fuller disclosure would show to the firm's clients that the accountants were not "fat cats". Stoy has been leading the battle against the practice of cutting the fees charged for auditing companies in the hope of picking up better-paying tax and corporate finance work.

Stoy made public complaints about "low balling" by Price Waterhouse when it took the audit of the Royal Automobile Club from Stoy last year. Tax and corporate finance were the strong points as total fee income for Stoy rose by 4.8 per cent to £100.3 million in the year that ended on March 31. The firm has won business from top six firms in the tax advice area and this pushed up income 12.1 per cent to £22.5 million.

In corporate finance, Stoy is the leading adviser to companies floating on the Alternative Investment Market, and this led to a 30.4 per cent hike in fees to £5.4 million. Mr Martin said that Stoy had benefited from the defection of a number of Bolder Hamlyn partners in offices outside London, after their takeover last year by Arthur Andersen. Regionally this was reflected in strong performances in Northern Ireland and East Angles, where growth exceeded 15 per cent last year.



Keith Gilchrist, chief executive, left, and David Nussbaum, finance director, saw Field Group lift pre-tax profits from £15.4 million to £18.2 million in the year to March 31. The manufacturer of printed folding cartons said there was evidence of a slackening of demand in Europe, but current trading is broadly in line with expectations. There is a final dividend of 5.7p a share, lifting the total to 8.5p, from 7.7p last time

ING sues Deutsche Bank as equities specialists defect

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

ING BARINGS is suing Deutsche Bank in a New York court for more than \$10 million after the German bank poached 50 of its Latin American equities specialists for higher salaries.

ING is suing Deutsche on six counts, including unfair competition, inducing breach of contract and misappropriation of confidential information. The move reflects ING's fury at losing a major portion of its emerging markets team, which was one of the main strengths of Barings when the Dutch bank bought it last year after Barings met disaster in the derivatives markets.

Although ING paid a nominal £1 to buy Barings, it has spent nearly £1 billion in paying off the bank's debts and maintaining generous bonuses to hold on to staff. It is angry that the value of its investment is being eroded by the loss of key staff.

The case is being watched with interest by other banks, whose managements are also fearful of Deutsche Bank's recent recruiting drive, which is disrupting the already stellar pay scales of merchant bankers. Some of the ING Barings employees, for example, have been lured away with the promise that their salaries will be doubled.

Some of them now expect to become millionaires. Deutsche's investment banking arm is based on Morgan Grenfell, the British merchant bank that it purchased in 1989, and Deutsche is aiming to build this division up into a global firm. It has calculated that it can do so more cheaply by tempting staff from competitors than by buying another bank outright.

ING Barings is merely the latest bank to suffer depredation by Deutsche. About 60 people have moved to Deutsche Morgan Grenfell from SBC Warburg, and 50 from Merrill Lynch. Morgan Stanley and other leading investment banks have also lost staff.

Regulators are making "considerable" efforts to coordinate their efforts in the wake of the Barings collapse, a meeting in London was told yesterday (Jon Ashworth writes). Peter Haines, head of prudential risk with the Securities and Futures Authority, told a meeting of international regulators of the growing emphasis on group-wide regulation. Mr Haines said: "There is now a feeling that securities regulators should concentrate more on areas such as internal controls and liquidity, which can often only be reviewed meaningfully across the group, rather than in the authorised firm in isolation."

Mr Haines said that current rules provided significant protection against knock-on risks, but conceded that viewing a firm in isolation could be misleading. Greater use could be made of external and internal auditors in assessing the group-wide picture.

City Diary, page 31

Pennington, page 29

Titan 'encouraged bank loans'

By Robert Miller

INVESTORS are being encouraged to borrow money from their banks to join an international money-making scheme described in Parliament by David Rendel, Liberal Democrat MP for Newbury, as "an iniquitous pyramid-selling scam" the High Court was told yesterday.

Roger Kaye QC, appearing for the Department and Trade

Industry, said there was evidence that the Titan Business Club and its associate companies in the UK had advised potential members of the scheme to tell banks they needed the £2,500 joining fee "for a car or something of that nature".

The DTI is asking the court to close Titan's scheme because it amounted to "an unlawful lottery" that was bound to fail. Members who sign up for £2,500 in turn recruit four or five other members at meetings conducted under conditions of great secrecy to recruit their initial outlay, it was said.

Urging Sir Richard Scott, the Vice-Chancellor, to appoint a provisional liquidator, Mr Kaye said that SHV Senator, the German based management company of Titan, and the Titan companies operating in the UK, amounted to a "money circulation, money pyramid or snowball scheme".

City Diary, page 31

Pennington, page 29

Commission urges regional caution

By Janet Bush, Economics Correspondent

A LABOUR government should devote real decision-making powers to regional bodies, including the ability to decide spending priorities, but within the £11 billion currently earmarked for spending on economic regeneration, according to a report published today by the Regional Policy Commission.

The Commission, which was set up by John Prescott, deputy leader of the Labour Party, to take an independent look at regional policy, has produced an extremely detailed report which studiously avoids suggesting any extra

public spending and advocates a gradualist approach to change. Training and Enterprise Councils, for example, would be kept intact for the time being but made they would be more accountable to regional development agencies. Only two quangos would go immediately, others being wound up over time.

Despite its lack of obvious controversy, Labour sources were last night distancing themselves from the report, suggesting that Mr Prescott will look again at the issues, but not for some months.

Standard Life set to make £730m in bank stake sale

By Alasdair Murray



Sir Bruce Patullo: conflict

STANDARD LIFE is set to make about £730 million after confirming that it would sell a "substantial" part of its 32.5 per cent stake in the Bank of Scotland. But the mutual life insurance company has opted for a secondary offering of shares, easing Bank of Scotland fears that the stake could fall into the hands of a potential takeover bidder.

Last month, a row broke out between the two companies after news leaked that Standard Life was considering a sale. Sir Bruce Patullo, Governor of the Bank of Scotland,

resigned from the Standard Life board, citing a conflict of interests.

Standard Life said it wanted to sell the stake, which is equivalent to 6 per cent of the company's total UK holdings, to rebalance its equity portfolio.

Standard Life bought the stake from Barclays for £155 million in 1986. Shares in the Bank of Scotland closed down 16.5p at 248.5p yesterday, valuing the Standard Life stake at £955 million. Standard Life is expected to hold on to about 25 per cent of the stake after the sale.

TOURIST RATES

Bank	Bank
Buy	Sell
Australia \$	1.88
Austria Sch	17.82
Belgium Fr	51.55
Canada C	2.04
Cyprus Cyp	0.781
Denmark Kr	9.88
Finland Mk	7.62
France F	6.41
Germany Dm	2.38
Greece Dr	368
Hong Kong \$	12.54
India Ru	48.5
Israel Sh	5.40
Italy Lira	2485
Japan Yen	162.50
Malta	0.587
Netherlands Gld	2.78
New Zealand \$	2.43
Norway Kr	10.64
Portugal Esc	204.50
S Africa Rd	4.48
Spain Ptas	166.00
Sweden Kr	11.00
Switzerland Fr	2.08
Turkey Lira	1244.14
USA \$	1.855

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

CITY OF LONDON

Election of Sheriffs 1996

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following candidates are in nomination for election as Sheriffs of this City:

CLIVE HAYDN MARTIN

OBE, TD

Weatherbury, 16 Heath Road

Linde Heath, Putney Bar

Herts EN6 1LN

Alderman and Stationer & Newspaper Maker

STANLEY KEITH KNOWLES

46 Aubrey Walk

London W8 7JG

Citizen and Chartered Surveyor

The election will take place at the assembly of the Liverymen of the said City in Common Hall in the Guildhall in the said City on Monday, 24th June instant at 12 o'clock noon.

Dated this 10th day of June, 1996.

Bernard Hart

Town Clerk & Chamberlain

Guildhall

London EC2P 2EJ

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
The Commission has received a petition from the Trustees of the Charity of St. Andrew's Church, London, for the revocation of the order of the Commission dated 10th June 1995, which directed the Trustees to pay the sum of £10,000 to the Charity of St. Andrew's Church, London.

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LEGAL NOTICES

BUSH HALL GOLF CLUB LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following candidates are in nomination for election as Sheriffs of this City:

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE OF MEETING OF CREDITORS
In the matter of the estate of the late Mr. J. A. CHAMBERLAIN, deceased, the following notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the estate of the late Mr. J. A. CHAMBERLAIN, deceased, will be held at the offices of the Insolvency Practitioner, Messrs. J. A. CHAMBERLAIN & CO., 12 New Bridge Street, London, EC4A 3DF, on Thursday, 14th June 1996, at 10.30 a.m.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following candidates are in nomination for election as Sheriffs of this City:

NOTICE OF VARIATION OF INTEREST RATES

With effect from 11 June 1996
our variable Mortgage rate will decrease from 6.25% (6.4% APR) to 6.05% (6.2% APR) per annum for new borrowers and from 1 July 1996 for existing borrowers.



Direct Line Financial Services Limited,
250 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5SH.
Registered in England No. 2372702.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

BT to invest £200m in Internet initiative

BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS is to invest £200 million in a new Internet initiative, the company said yesterday. BT has teamed up with MCI, the US telecoms group, in which BT holds a 20 per cent stake, to build a high-speed dedicated Internet network that will expand the capacity of the global Internet network by about 30 per cent.

BT aims to combine the two companies' Internet networks into eight regional superhubs, or local access points. The initial hubs, to be located in Australia, Germany, Japan, the UK, the US and The Netherlands, will expand to 20. Concert, the BT and MCI joint venture communications company, will provide the new service, aimed at international carriers, Internet service providers and business. NTT, the Japanese telecoms company, is to market Concert services in the Far East.

Kleinwort trust plan

THE 70,000 investors in the Kleinwort European Privatisation Investment Trust, launched in 1994, were yesterday offered a £300 million plan to put an end to the disappointing share performance. Kept, a £500 million trust managed by Kleinwort Benson, is proposing to buy in up to 60 per cent of its shares in an attempt to narrow the gap between its share price and the value of its underlying investments. Its shares have regularly traded at 15-20 per cent less than its net asset value. Kept's shares closed at 92½p (issue price 100p) and the latest net asset value is 106.7p.

Renold pulls ahead

PROFITS at Renold, the gears and chains manufacturer, rose sharply again in the year to March 31, increasing to £18.7 million before tax, from £11.6 million in the previous year. Earnings were 20.8p a share, compared with 13.6p. A final dividend of 4.5p a share lifts the total to 6.5p from 4.5p. The shares eased 4½p to 315½p. Peter Frost, chairman, said: "Over the last three years, the group has developed a strong momentum and has entered the current year with the order book higher than a year ago."

Vote on 20% pay offer

TRAIN drivers at Great Western, the newly privatised rail company that runs services from Paddington to the South West, are poised to accept a pay offer giving rises of up to 20 per cent in return for changes in working practices. Members of Aslef, the drivers' union, who work at Great Western have been voting on a deal that will increase basic pay to about £20,000. The ballot result will be announced today, but members are thought to have voted heavily in favour of the deal, which covers about 300 drivers.

Full Circle recovery

FULL CIRCLE INDUSTRIES, the home improvements group formed by former Spring Ram chiefs Bill Rooney and Alan Bell, reduced its losses by one third to £645,000 in the year to March 31. Mr Bell said all the businesses apart from Wren Kitchens, the mass market start-up, were now in profit. Mr Bell said the business was looking for acquisitions, but many it had seen were too expensive. The loss per share fell from 1.89p to 0.82p, but the dividend was also reduced from 0.25p to 0.1p.

Treats valued at £19.5m

TREATS GROUP, the ice cream manufacturer formed through a management buyout from Unilever in 1991, will be valued at £19.5 million when its shares begin trading on the stock market on Thursday. The shares are being placed with institutional investors at 174p. John Butters and Barry Thomas, who led the buyout, will each raise about £1 million selling shares and will retain a 45 per cent interest. In 1995, the company lifted pre-tax profits to £2.45 million on sales of £22.2 million.

EuroDollar cuts payout

EURODOLLAR (Holdings), the vehicle rental company, is cutting the total dividend to 4.12p a share from a pro forma 9.35p after a sharp decline in profits from £14.57 million to £4.01 million in the year to March 31. The downturn was caused by a dramatic increase in the cost of sales brought about by higher vehicle holding costs and higher interest costs. Earnings were 6.15p a share (19.97p). The final dividend is 1p (6.2p).

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THE BEST
PEOPLE
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The Humana International Group plc, based in the UK, is a public company. It is listed on the London Stock Exchange. Humana is a specialist company that grows faster than anyone else in Europe. You want to talk to Humana. You want the best people. It's only Humana. Call 0700 110 000, or 017 636 7650 for more details.

□ British Energy's short-sighted dividend policy □ Sun Life arrives in a dull sector □ Alliance in the skies at last

For progressive read regressive

WHAT is the opposite of a "progressive" dividend policy? A regressive one? Downright reactionary, perhaps? Such musings are prompted by a British Energy prospectus that promises, quite fraudulently, to take just such a progressive line on payments to shareholders.

By trotting out the usual corporate cliché, therefore, the company binds itself to start life as a quoted entity on the over-generous side and then ratchet up the payments year by year at a rate some way ahead of inflation. Yet in British Energy's case there is every likelihood that such promises will be impossible to keep even three or four years down the line, for several reasons. A Labour administration, or continuing downward pressure on electricity prices — both could prove fatal to any promise to raise dividends by the 5 per cent plus a year in real terms that the word "progressive" is generally thought to imply.

Consider Labour first. A paper yesterday from Oxford Economic Research Associates (Oxera) attempts to unpick the party's policy on utilities regulation. Two scenarios emerge, which Oxera describes as a modest, evolutionary approach and a radical overhaul. They might better be described as more of the same but tougher, and completely different and

unimaginably tough. The effect would be cheaper electricity and a threat to British Energy's plan to move to dividends that are fully covered by profits.

As to electricity prices themselves, City institutions asked to take British Energy shares have their reasons to talk the price down, and plenty of gloomy research has been produced to prove that they must fall. This seems to have seeped through at last to those advisers, who have inserted a "wealth warning" into the prospectus. If electricity traded in the industry's "pool" or free market cheapens by more than 5 per cent, all promises on dividends are off.

None of the above will make much difference to the three quarters of a million private investors who have expressed an interest in British Energy. They are only concerned at the prospect of handing over £1 for each share and receiving 13.7p back in the form of dividends before any further payment is called for. If any other quoted company was enjoying this sort of forward dividend yield, this would be an indication that the stock market

thought the company was bust, or at the least that dividends would certainly be cut. It would be even stranger if, as with British Energy, the payment was promised without any indication when, if ever, it might be covered by earnings. But as the Government has forced such a yield on the company, investors might as well form an orderly queue for the shares.

The longer-term implications for British Energy are such that they should be prepared to ditch them as soon as that final dividend is received a year hence. This implies an awful lot of selling next summer.

A ray of hope in the gloom

THIS does not look like the most propitious moment to float a life company. In April the sector was all smiles, believing that sales of life insurance and pensions were finally improving and pulling out of the mis-selling scandal. Shares were animated by takeover talk as well as the windfalls coming out of the



distribution of orphan assets.

Now fears of increasing competition from interlopers such as Virgin Direct have darkened the mood. But Richard Branson is not the life insurance industry's only bogey man. Some dealers are also getting agitated about Chris Smith, Labour's Social Security spokesman.

Mr Smith's mind is currently much exercised on the subject of pensions and how to improve them. His ideal pension plan will have low charges and be simple to understand, requirements that would be onerous to some insurers. No wonder that the Prudential's price has fallen by almost 60p to little more than £4 since the start of May. No wonder that Peter Davis, the

Pru's chief executive, wants to broaden out by buying a building society.

Sun Life might therefore have wished for a better moment to make its market debut. But the purpose of the sale is to provide some much-needed cash for its parent, Compagnie UAP. It is even being said that the French insurer may have been encouraged by the French authorities to tidy up its finances.

If the French are forced sellers, this should be good news for investors. Following a few management changes, independent actuaries believe that Sun Life is flexible enough to adapt to a changing market. Its products, sold mostly through independent financial advisers, perform well. Its showing in the recent Money Marketing with-profits survey was creditable.

Although Sun Life Holdings will not be a FT-SE 100 stock because UAP is retaining such a large slice, between 58 and 66 per cent depending on the popularity of the offer, the institutions may still be attracted by the group's efficiency and talent for innovation. Provincial's position in the

commercial market is another plus. But even if Sun Life is well received, the revival of the sector is not assured.

BA goes the American way

TRICKY business, changing planes in mid-Atlantic, which explains why British Airways has made such heavy weather of its talks with American Airlines. These are so widely known in the airline industry that the US Government has even thought fit to bring out its own response. But BA has up to now been playing a straight bat and refusing to comment.

By linking with American, BA would leave its rather less attractive deal with USAir hanging in mid-air. The indications are that this will remain intact, along with BA's stake for now. But USAir's tiny chunk of the transatlantic market contrasts with BA and American's two-thirds share of all flights between Heathrow and New York's JFK. BA needs a deal with American eventually because in the

three years it has been linked with USAir such alliances have become the norm, and the British carrier is in danger of being left behind. United Airlines and Lufthansa, previously operating on a code-sharing basis whereby both companies appear to the consumer as one, last month took the process a logical step further, gaining clearance from the US authorities to operate as one company.

Other such deals are pending. By allowing for profit-sharing BA, too, is going beyond mere code-sharing. Flexibility will be needed over allowing the Americans access to BA's Heathrow field. In return BA can expect an agreement with American to be waived through with anti-trust immunity by Washington.

SuING Deutsche

THERE are few situations so dire, so hopeless that an American lawyer cannot make them worse. The heart sinks, therefore, at the news that ING is heading for the US courts over tempting of staff by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. The 45 dealers involved will not thus be persuaded to resume their posts at ING's Latin American desk. Nor, if the Dutch bank is successful, would a \$10 million "fine" on Deutsche prevent such predatory action elsewhere.

Unigate on expansion trail with £171m cash

By CARL MORTISHED

UNIGATE, the food manufacturer, held out the hope of a big acquisition after producing better than expected profits and ending the year with net cash in the bank totalling £171 million.

Strong performances from Unigate's fresh foods operations, including St. Ivel chilled products and Malton, the bacon and pork processing business, helped the company to shunt off the continuing decline of its doorstep milk delivery business. Operating profits rose by 12.2 per cent to £14 million and pre-tax profits before disposals grew by 7.5 per cent to £125 million.

The sale of Unigate's minority holding in Nutricia, the Dutch baby milk company, as well as Giltspur, the exhibitions business, and Black-eyed Pea, part of the US restaurants operation, produced an exceptional gain of £175 million. However, the company admitted that the loss of profits from the businesses sold would dilute Unigate's earnings in the current year, indicating



Growth plans: Ross Buckland, left, and Ian Martin yesterday

that the results for this year would depend on the timing and extent to which cash resources were reinvested.

Ross Buckland, chief executive, and Ian Martin, chairman say Unigate has resources for small, medium and large acquisitions. It had invested £900 million refocusing the group over the past

five years and expected to exceed that figure in the next five with the emphasis on European foods and distribution, including the UK.

Fears that Unigate's dairy operations would be affected by the BSE crisis proved unwarranted when it forecast that the cattle cull would have no material impact on milk

availability and did not expect higher costs from the scare to affect earnings.

Rising milk costs and the decline in doorstep sales caused profits at Unigate Dairies to fall 7.9 per cent to £35 million. The decline in milk deliveries to homes is slowing down 16 per cent for the year but currently running at a rate of 12.2 per cent. In response, Unigate has been cutting bottling capacity and after the closure of the Bournemouth plant, capacity has fallen 28 per cent with more reductions expected.

Unigate said yesterday that the high cost of milk was a concern, noting that Milk Marque's prices had risen rather than falling in line with market circumstances. Mr Buckland said: "This is further evidence of the way Milk Marque operates as an inadequately regulated yet dominant supplier of milk."

A full-year dividend of 19.2p (18.2p) is being paid from earnings per share of 39.4p (36.8p).

Tempos, page 30

Better payout served up by Berisford

BERISFORD, the kitchens, doors and food equipment company, reported a rise in pre-tax profits from £11.1 million to £11.9 million in the six months to March 30.

The advance in profits was achieved on the back of an increase in sales from £158 million to £242.6 million.

The interim dividend of 1.5p (1p) due July 19, is payable out of earnings of 6.5p a share, up 6.6 per cent from last time.

Berisford is actively seeking suitable acquisitions and has a cash balance of £11.7 million.

Tempos, page 30

Salvesen set for growth after profits dip to £77m

By SARAH BAGNALL

CHRIS MASTERS, chief executive of Christian Salvesen, said the business services group was "well placed to return to the path of profitable growth" as he unveiled a slide in pre-tax profits from £104.1 million to £77.6 million in the year to March 31.

The fall reflected a £28.9 million boost to the previous year's profit from the sale of three businesses. Stripping out the net disposal profit and pre-tax profits slipped from £77.7 million to £76.6 million. Underlying performance was

helped by a strong contribution from Aggreko, which rents out power generators and temporary air conditioners. Dr Masters said: "Aggreko has had an excellent year with operating profits 19.5 per cent ahead." The business lifted profits to £30.7 million, helped by unusually hot weather in America in the first half of the year that raised demand for cooling equipment. Sales rose from £128.1 million to £147.3 million. Logistics, the group's biggest division, saw profits slide

from £45.2 million to £43.4 million on sales of £465.1 million (£394.6 million). Its profits were dragged down by the European division, where profits fell 6.5 per cent to £34.5 million.

The final dividend of 5.15p makes a total for the year of 8.65p, up from 8.4p last time. The dividend, due August 5, is payable from underlying earnings of 18.5p, down from 19.5p last time. The shares rose 1p to 244p.

Tempos, page 30

Sales rise 18% at electrical group

By OLIVER AUGUST

ELECTROCOMPONENTS, the electrical and mechanical distribution group, reported record full-year sales yesterday of £560 million, up by 18.5 per cent.

According to preliminary results for the year to March 31, pre-tax profits increased by 15.2 per cent, to £99 million. The company accelerated dividend growth ahead of pre-tax profit growth with an increase of 17.3 per cent, to 6.6p, payable on August 12.

Roy Cotterill, the chairman, said that although rates of growth are slightly lower than those achieved last year, "we remain very confident that through the application of our consistent strategy we will achieve another good year". He added that construction of the 350,000 sq ft warehouse at Nuneaton will double capacity

in the UK, and support growth plans at home and overseas for a considerable number of years.

Sales at RS Components UK, the British subsidiary, increased 15 per cent, to £368 million. While gross margins have remained constant, development expenditure, principally in warehouse technology and marketing initiatives, has resulted in growth in operating profit trailing sales.

Strong growth continued at RS International with sales increasing 33 per cent to £152 million. In spite of more difficult trading conditions, profit in the French business grew satisfactorily. Germany is now in profit and Italy is at break-even after three years' trading, the company said.

Tempos, page 30

Sun Life poised for market debut

By ANNE ASHWORTH

SUN Life and Provincial Holdings, the life insurance business, will make its stock market debut on June 24, it was announced yesterday (See Pennington, this page).

The share price is expected to be in the 225p-255p range, which would put a price tag of £1.28 billion to £1.4 billion on the group. The move follows a decision by the company's French parent, Compagnie UAP, the insurance group, to dispose of a part of its stake.

Sun Life and Provincial Holdings, includes Sun Life, the UK's fourth largest insurer, UAP Provincial, and New Ireland, a life company in the Irish Republic.

UAP is selling between 50 million and 95 million shares

and Sun Life is issuing a further 133 million to 154 million. Sun Life should receive about £325 million, which it will use to repay a loan from UAP and other debts. UAP, privatised by the French Government in 1993, will be left controlling between 58 and 66 per cent.

Sun Life's advisers report that the level of registrations for the retail offer to the public is good, but numbers will not be given until the helpline closes on June 20.

The reaction from institutions is also encouraging, according to Michael Hart, Sun Life's chief executive.

For private investors, the minimum investment is £1,000.

Our new wider seats are so spacious you'll hardly notice anyone next to you.



PREMIER EUROPE

The first thing the business traveller will notice when flying our new Premier Europe service from Heathrow to Ireland is the size of our new seats.

The seats aren't just wider, there are less of them in the newly reconfigured business cabin. This gives more space and comfort in which to enjoy the exceptional new Premier Europe inflight service.

This service includes new seasonal menus featuring fine food and wines complemented by china made exclusively by Waterford Wedgwood.

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James Cropper PLC

PRELIMINARY PROFIT FIGURES

The following are the unaudited preliminary figures for the 52 weeks ended 30th March 1996.

Group Profit and Loss Account	1995	1996
Turnover	57,581	49,736
Operating Profit before exceptional items	3,292	3,447
Exceptional items	266	—
Operating Profit after exceptional items	3,026	3,447
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	1,852	2,566
Taxation	(722)	(948)
Profit attributable to shareholders	1,130	1,618
Dividend:		
Interim - 1.1p (1995 1.1p)	(81)	(91)
Proposed Final - 2.8p (1995 2.6p)	(232)	(215)
Amount set aside to reserves	807	1,312
Earnings per share of 25p	13.7p	19.5p

Summary:

- Group results lower than last year
- Strong recovery in Papermaking Division's profit in final quarter
- Dividend increased by 5%
- Prospects for next year are good

The profit before taxation for the 52 weeks to 30th March 1996 has declined from £2,566,000 to £1,852,000. This is arrived at after £266,000 of exceptional costs.

The Papermaking Division operated at full capacity in the first half year and below capacity in the second half year. Pulp price increases affected the profitability in the price of three quarters. There was a dramatic drop in the price of pulp in the final quarter which restored margins and led to little change in operating profit compared to last year.

Technical Fibre Products Ltd experienced in the middle two quarters an unexpected drop in profitability with a decline in sales in certain of its composite markets and delays in developing new grades.

The profits of the Converting Division was lower than last year, but in line with expectations, as the division had to absorb the costs of the operational disruption from the move into a new building and the depreciation on it.

The current year has started well as regards volume for the three businesses, with full order books and some week-end working required. Pulp prices are probably approaching the trough of the present cycle which will benefit the Papermaking Division. Technical Fibre Products is expected to return to a high annual growth rate after the setback of last year, and to increase further its contribution to the group profit.

The Board is confident that the Company is moving away from the pattern of static profits of the past few years.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Burnside Mills, Kendal, on Tuesday 13th August 1996 at 10.30am.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Wall Street provides London springboard

WALL Street provided investors in London with the springboard needed to claw back some of its recent losses. But while brokers acknowledged that London had overreacted to the recent falls in New York, they were also forced to concede that yesterday's rally did not contain any real substance. This was a fact underpinned by the low levels of turnover that saw less than 500 million shares change hands by the close.

In the event, the FT-SE 100 index closed well below its best of the day with a rise of 22.0 at 3,728.8, having been more than 30 points higher earlier in the session. This was almost certainly a reaction to news of an opening 30-point fall in New York in resumed trading after the weekend break, with investors continuing to ponder the prospect of an imminent rise in interest rates.

Fading prospects of a bid left Bank of Scotland nursing a fall of 16p at 248p. Its 32 per cent shareholder, Standard Life, plans to sell the bulk of its holding via a share offering. This will have the effect of splitting the stake into numerous hands, scuppering the hope among speculators that it would go to a single buyer who would then use it as the platform with which to make a full bid.

Elsewhere among the life insurers, Prudential slipped 1p to 406p amid revived suggestions that it is planning a rights issue to help to finance a major acquisition. The Pru is thought to have its eye on the Woolwich Building Society, which is proceeding with a public floatation in spite of losing Peter Robinson, its chief executive, earlier this year after only a few months in the job. There has also been talk that the Pru might decide to have a go at General Accident, up 4p to 679p, and Guardian Royal Exchange, 1p firmer at 272p.

The rest of the banks enjoyed selective support as NatWest Securities and James Capel, the brokers, were both reported to have turned bullish of the sector. Barclays rose 7p to 768p, HSBC 17p to 989p, National Westminster 9p to 626p, Lloyds TSB 3p to 309p, and Standard Chartered 4p to 661p.

Boots remained tight-lipped about weekend reports that it intends to pay WH Smith £50 million for its half share in Do-It-All, the loss-



Colin Gaskill, the managing director of 600 Group, and Tony Sweeton, managing director (tools), saw the shares rise

making DIY retailer they own jointly. Speculation about such a move has been rife in the City for months and is expected to be confirmed when WH Smith unveils full-year figures tomorrow. Do-It-All has been in the red since 1992 after a slump in the housing market and fierce competition from B&Q, owned by Kingfisher, and Sainsbury's.

News that SmithKline Beecham had terminated a licence agreement with Proteus covering an HIV vaccine patent came after close of trading. In its rights issue document Proteus said it would receive payment and royalties on sales. It insisted the move would not hurt the group financially. The shares ended 4p down at 75p.

Homebase. Boots finished 3p easier at 595p, while WH Smith jumped 21p to 481p. The market gave a warm response for plans by Rank Organisation, up 11p to 511p, to acquire the Hard Rock chain of cafes for a consideration of £410 million. Rank is expected to develop the brand name in the US, South America, and Australia. The move

on a pile of cash and makes no secret of the fact it is on the lookout for suitable acquisitions. One company that may attract its attention is Geest, up 20p to 232p, after briefly touching 257p.

More than doubled profits and dividend lifted 600 Group 7p to 287p. The performance was enhanced by a 25 per cent rise in turnover. Michael Wright, chairman, was optimistic about prospects. Asagun touched 42p before ending the session 20p lower at 49p after denying claims that AuraFlex, its automated diagnostic system, had suffered technical problems. The group said the problems last year had been dealt with.

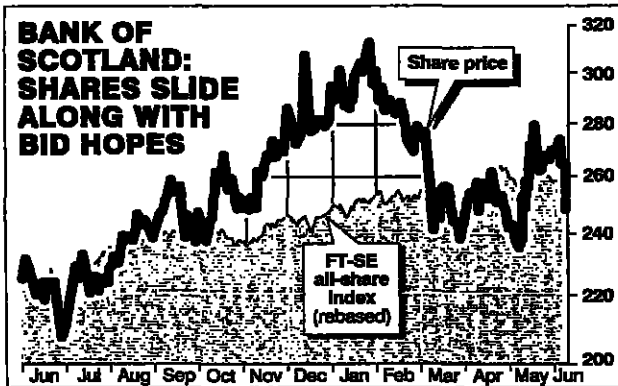
Alders firmed a further 3p to 213p after shareholders voted to sell its chain of duty-free shops to Swissair for £160 million. Alders decided to recommend the sale to Swissair after it topped a second offer, worth £145 million, from BAA Group, 2p firmer at 485p.

English football appears to be enjoying greater success on the stock market than it does on the field of play these days. Manchester United scored a further 39p to 478p as investors continued to reflect on the Premier League's tie-up with BSkyB for another four years in a deal worth almost £700 million. Tottenham Hotspur also put on 45p at 499p.

Spring Ram, the troubled bathroom and kitchen equipment group, marked time at 164p in spite of mounting speculation it may have found a buyer for its Crosby Sarek and Regency Doors businesses. World is Prendor, a Canadian company, is ready to pay £20 million, which will be good news for Roger Regan, Spring Ram's chairman. Last week, he issued another profit warning, which followed hard on the heels of a £43 million loss in March.

GILT-EDGED: An unexpected fall in industrial output was warmly received by investors, raising hopes of another cut in interest rates later in the year. The producer price index for May fell 0.1 per cent to 2.9 per cent prompting demand at the shorter end of the market and resulting in a further steepening of the yield curve. In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt rose five ticks to £105.16 in thin trading that saw only 27,000 contracts completed.

In shorts, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 rose seven ticks to £102.16, while at the longer end, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 closed three ticks up at £105.16. NEW YORK: US stocks were lower amid nervousness over the decline in the bond market. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 29.55 points to 5,667.56.



Bank of Scotland shares have been under pressure since the announcement of a bid by Standard Life. The share price has fallen from a high of over 300p in early 1995 to around 248p by May 1996. The graph shows a period of relative stability followed by a sharp decline in early 1996.

FT-SE 100: The FT-SE 100 index closed at 3,728.8, up 22.0 points from the previous day. The index was down 30 points earlier in the session but recovered after a weekend break in New York. The FT-SE 100 is up 1.5 per cent for the week.

FT-SE 250: The FT-SE 250 index closed at 4,450.0, up 22.0 points from the previous day. The index was down 30 points earlier in the session but recovered after a weekend break in New York. The FT-SE 250 is up 1.5 per cent for the week.

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MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	5667.56 (+29.55)
S&P Composite	670.37 (+2.94)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	21719.15 (+32.66)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	11143.24 (+53.31)
Amsterdam:	
Euro Index	570.31 (+4.80)
Sydney:	
ASX	Closed
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2558.81 (+1.38)
Singapore:	
Strait Times	2333.94 (+3.36)
Brussels:	
General	9503.10 (+68.29)
Paris:	
CAC 40	2120.94 (+18.85)
Zurich:	
SIX	784.00 (+6.40)
London:	
FT 100	3728.8 (+22.0)
FT 250	4450.0 (+22.0)
FT 100 Mid 250	4452.6 (+4.8)
FT 100 All-Share	1887.3 (+4.2)
FT 100 Euro Stoxx 100	1686.82 (+6.98)
FT 100 All-Share	1874.87 (+8.77)
FT Non Financials	1996.8 (+8.9)
FT Financials	1191.04 (+1.0)
FT Govt Secs	92.41 (+0.12)
Bargains	314.9
SEAQ Volume	516.5m
USM (Domestic)	223.57 (+0.53)
USM (Foreign)	1.5317 (+0.0101)
German Mark	2.3522 (+0.0134)
Exchange Index	85.8 (-0.3)
Bank of England official rate (4pm)	5.75
ECU	1.213
US\$	1.0728
RPI	152.6 Apr (2.4%) Jan 1997=100
RPIX	152.0 Apr (2.9%) Jan 1997=100

RECENT ISSUES

Aberforth Sml (100)	100	...
Biomacarbides Wrs	51	...
CA Counts (105)	118	...
Carlislebrook (90)	108	...
Emtech	65	...
Epic Multimedia	88	...
Euro Telecom (115)	157	...
Feldens (60)	65	...
Garmore Select Jap	91	...
Hercules Prop	65	...
Hydro-Dynas (105)	115	...
INVESTCO Eng Int C	97	...
Independent Energy	108	...
Lumina (200)	200	...
Mulberry Group	175	...
Prism Rail	225	...
Railtrack (190)	216	...
Recognition Sys (70)	120	...
Renaissance US Gth	98	...
SEA Multimedia	75	...
Schroder Venture	194	...
Talwan Inv Tst C	91	...
Tom Hoskins	55	...
Whitecross (84)	93	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Albrighton n/p (8)	1%	...
Cheifield n/p (220)	3%	...
Critchley n/p (810)
Enterprise n/p (153)	55	...
Firbank n/p (140)	21	...
Istock n/p (55)	6%	...
Proteus Int'l n/p (45)	26	...
Sketchery n/p (105)	108	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISER:	
Cain Energy	301p (+27p)
Man Utd	478p (+39p)
Chiroscience	438p (+18p)
Real Time	243p (+13p)
Caird Co	343p (+27p)
Filtronix Corp	325p (+17p)
FALLS:	
Trent	339p (-28p)
AMCO	515p (-21p)
Berkeley	458p (-39p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Unigate keeps the cream

INVESTORS must be getting tired of squeezing cash out of large, dull companies. Yesterday, the market gave a little pat on the back to Unigate which, having finished the year with £171 million of spare change, insisted that the money would be reinvested but gave no indication of how much, when or where.

It would be hasty to berate Unigate for not announcing a special dividend — the funds arriving courtesy of the company's sale in December of a 29 per cent interest in Nutricia, the baby foods group. However, Unigate admits that failure to reinvest quickly will leave it with earnings dilution. The damage could amount to about 5 per cent and the market is already awash with speculation that Unigate will bid for Dairy Crest, Geest or a logistics group, such as Tibbetts & Britten.

Part of the market's enthusiasm must be

due to a good set of results yesterday and signs that Unigate is coping well with the transition in the milk market. But performance in acquisitions has been mixed: its French foray has only partially delivered the goods and a new European managing director is being recruited with the two French companies to be merged 18 months after their acquisition.

Nevertheless, Unigate deserves some leeway. Its pig meat business should profit from the Government's bungling over beef and the company will soon be short of the last of the non-core businesses, leaving a fresh food and dairy group with a successful logistics operation. The shares are on a forward multiple of less than 11 times earnings leaving little downside. With the right acquisition at the right price, the shares would look attractive.

Electrocomponents

IN THE world of electronic components distribution, there are now only two companies that matter and they are both British: the recently merged Premier Farnell and Electrocomponents.

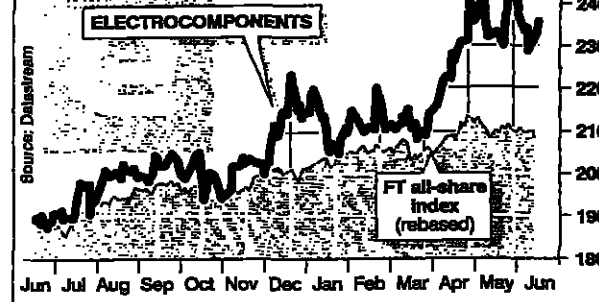
Having divided up the UK market, both Farnell and Electrocomponents have been building headwinds abroad. While Farnell struck a mammoth deal with Premier, the American company, its rival has been doing small acquisitions in Europe and is looking further East to establish a market for catalogue distribution in the manufacturing hotspots of South-East Asia.

Happily for shareholders, these two companies compete in a very gentlemanly way. Price is not an issue for their customers who are prepared to pay for a guar-

anteed 24-hour delivery service, a fact that allows both businesses to develop without damaging their margins.

Electrocomponents' expansion has been less dramatic than Farnell's. The latter frightened the stock market with its bid for Premier, a deal which has left the shares with a discount for risk. Electrocomponents' fancy rating — a 55 per cent premium to the market — is deserved despite cautious words about slower growth in the UK, as Electrocomponents has been building up a business for the future by gradual steps. Its European businesses are now coming into profit after start-up costs and further expansion in Asia should be forthcoming.

CATALOGUING THE EAST



Christian Salvesen

WITHOUT fail in every financial results announcement, Christian Salvesen reports a reduction in its exposure to food retailing. Yet the grocers manage to spoil the figures every time.

No one knows better than Salvesen how cut-throat food retailing logistics have become as the supermarkets attempt to shift the competitive burden on suppliers of services as well as food. The grocers account for less than a third of Salvesen's logistics operation and the squeeze on contract margins has probably bottomed out but last year's seven-day trading spoiled the picture. Adding Sunday trading to employment contracts cost the company £1.5 million while deregulation in Germany resulted in a £2 million loss.

Salvesen is making gains elsewhere, of course. The industrial side of the logistics operation is growing at rates of 20 per cent or more and

Aggreko, which rents generators and air conditioners produced profits growth of 19 per cent and stands to profit from a large contract to supply equipment to the Atlanta Olympic games.

Salvesen's share price has suffered from a perception that it regularly fails to deliver, a view that may unfairly focus on only part of the business but with 30 per cent of the business at best stuck in the doldrums it is difficult to be enthusiastic.

Berisford

BERISFORD is no longer losing money but making more proving difficult for the company. The main problem remains Magnet, which is failing dismally to live up to its name. Customers are resisting the attractions of its kitchen units, leaving the company with little choice but to cut margins in order to win sales. The result is a slump in profits.

While Magnet is not expected to be the engine of

growth, Welbilt is. The American company, worldwide supplier of chip fryers and pizza ovens to the fast food business, was deemed a good buy when Berisford snapped it up for £200 million in late 1994. The battle for world domination between McDonalds and Burger King augured well for the group. But yesterday came the first sign of trouble in the form of a decline in the rate of growth in the US food service market, holding back growth.

Magnet's problems are well known: a fall in housing starts and complacent, fragile customer confidence and increased price competition. Prospects of a revival in housing and spending may help but pricing competition shows little sign of easing. The picture for Welbilt is better but limited by intensifying pricing pressures. Given the shares look expensive.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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COCOA			
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THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

SNP left out in the cold

BRITISH ENERGY'S voluminous pathfinder prospectus published yesterday, contained a glaring omission. The nuclear company that makes great political play of being Scottish, that boasts a head office in Edinburgh and a Scottish chairman in John Robb, made no mention of the Scottish Nationalist Party in its prospectus.

Where the document sets out the views of Labour and the Lib-Dems, no reference is made of the self-styled real opposition north of the border, the Scottish Nationalists, who, should Scotland become independent, could well be in charge and who are not overly fond of nuclear power. A disappointed Kevin Pringle, the SNP's director of communications, said the exclusion "adds to our fears that the company will be a southern-focused one".



In hot water

PHILIP HANSCOMBE, former ICI director, proposed as a non-executive director of Spring Ram, the troubled bathroom company, was in hot water last week. At the company's AGM, Bill Rooney and Alan Bell, two former directors of Spring Ram, voted against Hanscombe's appointment. This meant there weren't enough votes from the floor for the appointment to go through. Roger Regan, Spring Ram's chairman, pleaded with shareholders to vote again, adding that taking a poll would only "delay lunch". After Hanscombe's speech, the vote went through.

Bobbitt talk

DELEGATES at a conference in London could not believe their ears yesterday, when Peter Haines, head of prudential risk at the Securities and Futures Authority, began to ramble about "Bobbitt". The firm that relies on other group members, usually located overseas, to perform vital functions. Mr Haines adds: "A Bobbitt could be said to be an incomplete member of a regulatory body." Readers may recall the case of John Wayne Bobbitt, a former US Marine, who became a movie star after his wife wielded a kitchen knife.

Convenient call

MERRILL LYNCH played a vital role in the wedding of its banking analyst Richard Coleman last weekend. When Gina Fanning, the bride and former Merrill employee, turned up early for her wedding at St Etheldreda's in the City, she stopped at her old employer's to use their loo. Although she left the securities giant last year, the security guard greeted her with open arms.

IF A wig count is indicative on the possible outcome of a court case then the Department of Trade and Industry has its work cut out. In court for the DTI yesterday were two wigs, led by Roger Kaye, QC, trying to convince Vice-Chancellor Sir Richard Scott, of arms-to-Iraq fame, to close down Titan, alleging that it is an unlawful pyramid selling scheme. The Titan side, which denies the DTI allegation, boasts no less than seven wigs.

MORAG PRESTON

Price of workplace flexibility may be rising job insecurity

Philip Bassett

on the state of the campaign for an adaptable jobs market in the UK

Another fall in unemployment tomorrow will be greeted as a victory for the Government's efforts to bring about a flexible labour market.

It is widely believed that employment in the UK has been transformed from a stilted, rigid and poorly performing aspect of the economy to a new, supple and fully flexible labour market that is a vital feature of Britain's economic recovery — and, arising from that, the Government's prospects of being re-elected. Later this week, the Government's competitiveness White Paper will proclaim that theory.

The labour market can provide virtually any number of indicators of its supposed flexibility. The Government's own Labour Market Flexibility study last year looked at many: hiring and firing, labour mobility, wage determination levels, regional pay, working time, hours worked, wage flexibility and intra-job functional flexibility, though, significantly, it could only conclude, cautiously, that while the labour market had become more flexible, the economic effects of such changes were still unproven.

But probably the most widely used are the structural changes to employment, in particular, the level of part-time and temporary working. These are widely held as having increased, thereby sharply increasing the flexibility of the UK labour market.

Today, *The Times* looks at the shape of the British labour market over the last four decades to see if such claims are borne out: to see whether there is greater labour market flexibility; and, if there is, what its effects have been.

Over the period, as the graphics show, the change has been huge. Between 1951 and 1991, full-time work has fallen by 6 per cent. At the same time, part-time working has grown almost six-fold — by 595 per cent.

At the start of the Fifties, 96 per cent of all employees were in full-time jobs, with only 3.75 per cent working part-time. By the beginning of the Nineties, the proportion of employees in full-time jobs had fallen to 78 per cent, while 22 per cent worked part-time. Even so, at 5.7 million employees, the number of part-timers was still dwarfed by the 20 million in full-time work.

In 1951, the number of full-timers was not that different, at 21.3 million. But with a smaller workforce overall, the total number of part-timers was tiny in comparison — only 831,000.

But within these large-scale changes, the real growth in part-time working is clearly not in the new "flexible" labour market. Scrutiny of official figures over time shows a much sharper growth in part-time work in the 1950s (148 per cent), and the 1960s (89 per cent), rather than the 1970s, which showed no overall growth in part-time working, probably because of the strength of the trade unions, which were then largely opposed to part-time work.

figures. Of that, the net fall has been entirely among men — down by 500,000, with a 295,000 increase in the number of women in work insufficient to stop the overall total falling.

Given the dominance of women in part-time working, that pattern is closely linked to the continuing rise of the part-time jobs. Over the period, full-time jobs are down by 842,000, or 4.2 per cent, while part-time work is up by 578,000, or 10 per cent.

What all this demonstrates is a restimulation of flexible working in the 1990s. While it is still at nothing like the rates of growth of earlier decades, it is clear that the increase is picking up again as employers choose to adopt more flexible employment strategies.

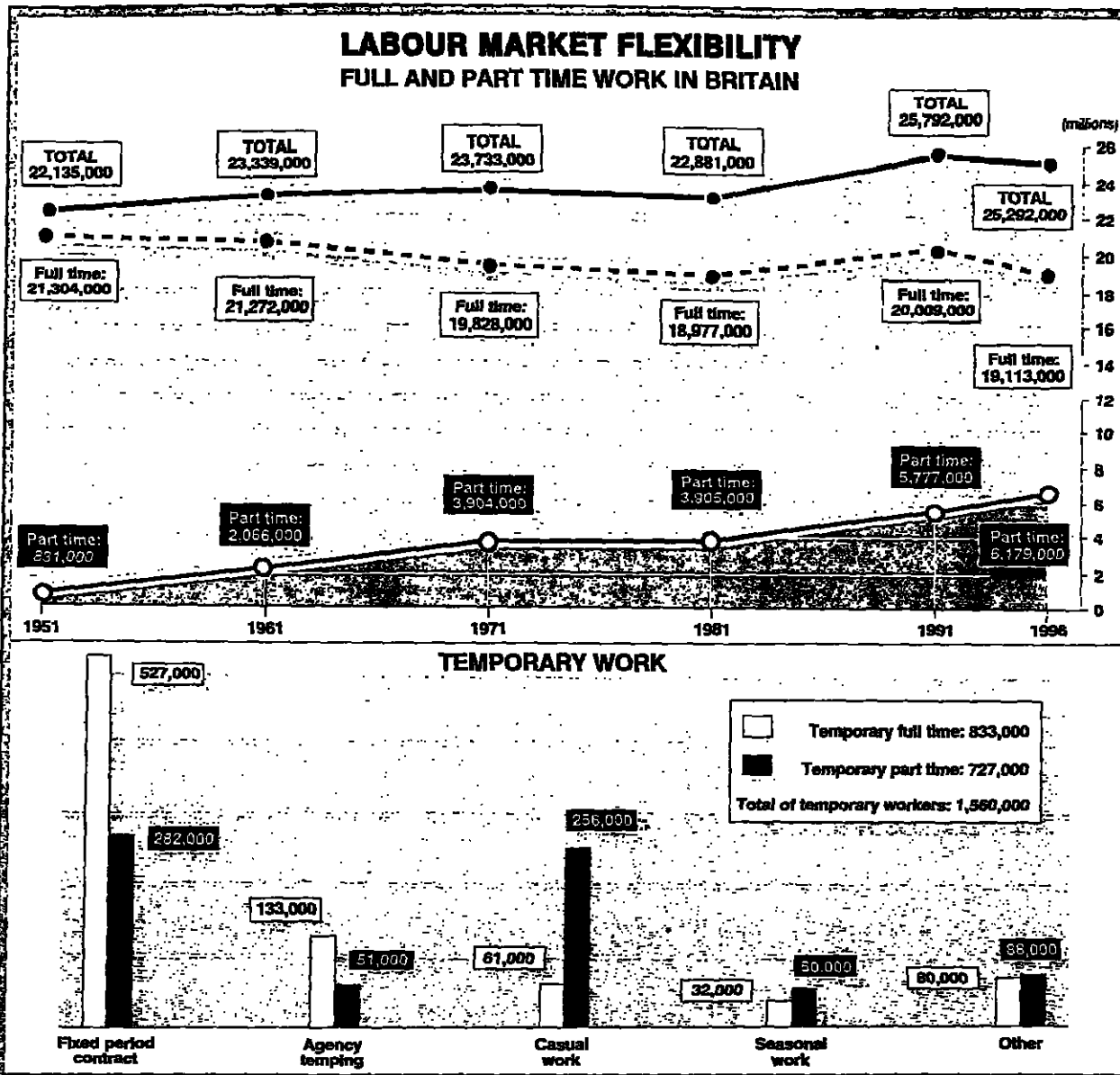
Government ministers are convinced that this is a wholly beneficial development: greater flexibility will lead to more jobs, increased output, and an improved economic performance.

But niggling in their minds is the stubborn refusal of this improvement to translate into electoral terms — the long-felt absence of the "feel-good" factor. Labour argues strongly that increased job insecurity is at the heart of this, and with unemployment on a long downward trend, it is likely that labour market flexibility is at the core of greater job insecurity.

Even now, after decades of movement towards greater labour market flexibility, two thirds of Britain's employment is full-time — three quarters, if the full-time self-employed are included. Only one fifth of employment is made up of part-time work.

But flexibility seems everywhere on the rise at work. For many full-time employees this is doubly threatening. First, because such flexible work seems inherently less secure, especially in terms of long-term financial commitments like buying a house on a mortgage. Secondly, because it makes permanent, full-time work itself less secure — more likely to disappear, more likely to be replaced by flexible people in flexible jobs.

It may be, then, that greater labour market flexibility is a classic double-edged sword. Just as companies are finding low and decreasing levels of loyalty as they implement flexible working strategies, so too, at the level of the national economy and national politics, the advantages of the drive — with only relatively limited recent success — towards the flexible labour market may well have a darker undertone. And this could play a key part both in Britain's economic recovery and the fate of the Government at the next general election.



Greater labour flexibility may be a classic double-edged sword

By gender, the figures are even sharper. Among women, the number in full-time jobs is actually down, by 19,000, to 6.3 million. Full-time male employees are down by 765,000, or 5.6 per cent, while the number of male part-timers is markedly up, by 293,000, or 24.3 per cent, though this increase of 264,000 takes male part-timers to just under 1.2 million, a level that is still low.

The pattern of the changes has fluctuated, with even part-time work falling back in 1994-95 as the economy faltered. Similarly, temporary work — people on contracts, in seasonal or casual jobs, which is sometimes seen as the apotheosis of labour market flexibility — has remained a steady and low proportion of UK employment.

In 1984, temporary work accounted for 5.3 per cent of all employees. A decade later, after a concerted policy push towards greater flexibility, it

had risen to 6.5 per cent, although its impact has been accelerating more recently.

The most recent period of all reflecting what looks like an acceleration all round in flexible working. Between winter 1994-95 and the same period this year, the number of employees overall grew by 1.6 per cent. The number of full-timers grew by the same proportion — but the number of part-timers rose by 5.7 per cent, with a 10 per cent rise among men and a 4.5 per cent increase among women.

Similarly, people in temporary work rose by 3.5 per cent overall, comprising a 2 per cent rise in full-time temporary jobs and a 5.4 per cent rise in part-time temporary work.

What all this demonstrates is a restimulation of flexible working in the 1990s. While it is still at nothing like the rates of growth of earlier decades, it is clear that the increase is picking up again as employers choose to adopt more flexible employment strategies.

Government ministers are convinced that this is a wholly beneficial development: greater flexibility will lead to more jobs, increased output, and an improved economic performance.

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BUSINESS LETTERS

Cheque-clearance guarantees from banks needed by small businesses

From Saroj K Chakravarty
Sir, I am very surprised that the recent revelations by the Consumers' Association about the banks sitting on our cheques and making money did not create much more severe reaction or discussion in the media. From my own experience, I can guarantee that action taken in this partic-

ular area by the Chancellor, or the Bank of England, could save thousands of small businesses going bust. For the first 13 years of our company, James McNaughton Paper Group, we were going under every day. But in 1986, we got a guarantee from the Norwich branch of Bank of Scotland that our cheques would be

cleared within 48 hours. Within a short time, our cash flow improved, our borrowing costs started going down, our relationship with our suppliers improved as they were getting paid on time, and we could prepare logical financial plans for our investment and expansion.

I am absolutely convinced if

other small businesses had similar guarantees from their banks, they would have survived and prospered the same way we did. The high street banks have a lot to answer for deepening the last recession. Yours faithfully, SAROJ K CHAKRAVARTY, Mirnal, 55 The Avenue, Beckenham, Kent.

Britain has right approach on social protocol

From Mr C. S. Tubbs
Sir, It is strange for Robbie Gilbert (*The Times*, May 22) to say "the problem [for the UK] of the social protocol opt-out... emerges" when the real problem lies with the rest of the European Union only now recognising the correctness of the UK policy.

Members of The Union of Independent Companies do not want that we should give up our advantages of having flexible working policies — or the possibility of giving them up — by now opting "in". If other European Union members see the follies of their ways it is up to them to rewrite the social protocols, not for us

to "rejoin" the social policy debate. Mr Gilbert has indeed a funny sense of logic when he suggests our "messy" organisation of four ministries being involved in special policy development be changed to an EU-like one or two ministries organisation; I would remind him that we, with the mess, got it right and his preferred one or two ministries set up got it wrong. Yours sincerely, CHRISTOPHER TUBBS (Chairman), The Union of Independent Companies, 17 Gillingham Street, SW1.

No constitutional obligation on the ICA

From Mr AJ Colquhoun
Sir, I would like to set the record straight regarding Jeff Wooler's letter of May 23. There was no constitutional obligation on the institute to send out a proxy form for Mr Wooler's motion as its annual meeting, unlike for the resolutions to the special meeting proposing specific charter and bylaw changes and increases in fees and subscriptions. This year's arrangements do not signify a change in policy, or a departure from the practice of previous years, even when there have been motions submitted by members. Dr Wooler also argues that overseas members are disenfranchised. But they are in no different position from any other member and may request a proxy form from the institute by phone, or fax. Overseas members may also submit their proxy by fax. Yours sincerely, ANDREW COLQUHOUN (Secretary & Chief Executive), The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, Chartered Accountants' Hall, PO Box 433, Moorgate Place, EC2.

Letters to *The Times* Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.



JANET BUSH

Time for some enlightenment

Tomorrow's Mansion House dinner is deliciously timed for economic commentators in search of a frisson as well as excellent wine. For the second successive year, the evening pits the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Governor of the Bank of England against each other as after-dinner speakers, just after a contentious decision on interest rates.

But the event is not supposed to be a Punch and Judy show, much as a bit of hilarity would go down well at such a formal occasion. On the contrary, the dinner has traditionally been the forum for major statements on monetary policy. On this score, last year was disappointing, with the Chancellor managing to confuse everyone by saying his inflation target was both 1 to 4 per cent and 2.5 per cent or less.

So can we this year plead for enlightenment from both Chancellor and Governor on a far more fundamental issue? This is the question of whether, as five out of six of the Treasury's panel of wise persons so stunningly concluded last week (coincidentally on the day that Mr Clarke cut rates), the economy can now grow faster than it could in the past, without higher inflation. They said that they now believe that the British economy can grow at 3 per cent, or higher, over the next three to five years without a rise in underlying inflation.

The wise ones concentrated their analysis on trying to measure the output gap, the difference between actual output and some measure of potential output. The much used — and much derided — concept of the output gap attempts to bring into a single figure the whole host of factors that allow an economy to grow further or run up against constraints that will lead to higher inflation. There are physical constraints — a company has only so much machinery and technology and has limits on how much it can produce — or constraints of human behaviour: mostly what wages people demand.

This latter component of an economy's potential is the key to the current debate about Britain. We could hardly be postulating that Britain's physical capacity has rocket-

ed because our companies have broken with years of tradition and started to invest more of their profits. British companies are still disappointing investors. So, back to wages.

The theory goes that that there comes a point in any period of economic growth when unemployment reaches such a low level that those in work are no longer too scared to ask for higher pay. Policymakers are supposed therefore to try to guess where the so-called "natural rate of unemployment" or *Nairu* (Non-accelerating inflation rate of unemployment) is. This is, theoretically, the point at which unemployment is so low that wages start to rise.

A lot of people think that the natural rate has fallen because of Conservative reforms to the labour market that have made it a model of flexibility. In layman's terms, this means that even if there are few workers out there who could take your place, you are still too scared about being fired to ask for an inflationary pay rise.

The OECD thinks Britain's natural rate could be 7 per cent or less, well below April's 7.8 per cent. Wise man Patrick Minford believes unemployment could fall to as low as 2 per cent without higher inflation and that the output gap is a huge 7 per cent. The Bank of England has even begun to wonder whether the natural rate has fallen because wage pressures have, thus far, been so subdued.

The output gap and the natural rate are at the heart of economic policymaking. They are the Holy Grail of economics to some: "just a patina of spurious calculability and accuracy" to Roger Bootle, chief economist at Midland Bank and author of *The Death of Inflation*.

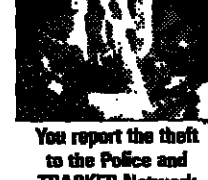
Nonsense or not the concepts may be. But a sense of how quickly the British economy can grow means the difference of thousands of extra households finding work and that couldn't be more important. Can we ask Mr George for some central bankerly wisdom tomorrow night? And can that be drowned out later by some good old-fashioned common sense on the subject from Mr Clarke?

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LAW

● CPS DEBATE GOES ON 37
● LAW REPORT 41

Philip Bean reports on an important development in American civil justice



A user sucks heroin into a syringe: is there a case for Britain to try the new American approach to dealing with people dependent on serious drugs?

The doughnut solution

Drug offenders are being dealt with by the American criminal justice system in a radically new way. The creation of Drug Courts — at which judges take charge of the treatment of offenders — is being claimed by some judges to have produced a jurisprudence revolution. Whether true or not, they deserve attention.

There is top-level political will behind the idea. President Clinton has asked Congress for \$100 million for Drug Courts in 1996-97, and Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, supports the concept.

The growth of these courts is staggering. When I first visited them in August 1994, there were about 25 around the country. Now, 20 months later, there are about 180, and that number is likely to rise to 250 in the next year. Forty-three states plus the District of Columbia have a Drug Court programme, and 11 states have enacted legislation relating to planning and funding Drug Courts. The courts, at least the Miami type, operate as a slow-track court treatment programme. The judge controls and decides the type of treatment to be given, allocates the offender to specific programmes and the court provides and pays for them.

They differ from the so-called fast-track system in which the aim is to move the offender speedily through the system. In the Drug Courts, offenders are not sent to other agencies, not even to court-based agencies such as the probation service for treatment.

ment. They are kept firmly under the court's direct control. If the offender fails to meet the demands of the treatment programme he or she can be remanded in custody or required to attend court more regularly. If he does well, he will be allowed to attend less often.

At the end of the programme, and depending on the way Drug Courts fit into the specific legal system — whether they operate as part of a deferred sentence or in some other way — the offender can have the charge dismissed, or perhaps be placed on probation.

The Drug Courts movement is a judge-led movement. It de-

velopment in the criminal justice system.

But not all judges like the Drug Courts. They dislike the court ceremonies and the special speakers and prizes that are such a feature of the system. Often, offenders are applauded by all the court staff when they do well. In exceptional circumstances, an offender may be awarded a doughnut. The critics also dislike the interaction with the offenders, and say the Drug Court is not a court at all. They regret a "loss of dignity" of the judge and see dangers when the adversarial system is weakened in this way.

In fact, the Drug Court is not a court — at least, not in

the traditional sense in which courts are defined — and the role of the judge has changed to one of an active participant with a clear and biased view. He or she wants to keep the offender in the programme and to cure his addiction. This makes the judge a sort of legal social worker, which fits uneasily into a system in which the main aim is punishment.

There are also many critics among the public defenders and prosecutors — prosecutors have remained the most trenchant critics of Drug Courts. Public Defenders find they have a less forceful role in

the Domestic Court and to produce courts for drunken drivers. So long as they retain the support of the judges, have favourable research results and remain cost-effective, their future is assured.

The Drug Court movement is one of the most important developments in American civil justice for some time. It deserves to be looked at closely and may well be of value in Britain — it could fit easily into the deferred sentence. If we are to try it here, I hope it will be done properly, and not as a cheap gimmick. The system in Britain, like the old lock 'em up approach in America, does not work too well, either.

● The author is professor at the Midlands Centre for Criminology and Criminal Justice, Department of Social Sciences, Loughborough University.

A little light on the Euro Court debate

The Home Secretary's speech to the European Research Group on May 17, which was deeply critical of the European Court of Justice, was applauded by the Euro-sceptics. It provoked, not surprisingly, a letter to *The Times* on June 5, from Lord Mackenzie Stuart, a former president of the court, and other leading judges and academics supporting the past record of the court.

I happen to support the view of Lord Mackenzie Stuart and his colleagues and was surprised at Michael Howard's speech, which in tone, at least, went well beyond the Government's measured and constructive position in its recent White Paper. His speech heightened the risk that there will be continuing debate on the past record of the court when there is a need to focus on its future role within the European Union. This needs to be more clearly defined, whether or not it has in the past exceeded its constitutional role.

One main area of complaint is that the European Court introduced the doctrine of direct effect as a result of which an individual can sue for damages against a nation state which has failed to implement a European directive or regulation. This jurisdiction has been developed because the court felt individuals should have the right to redress when member states breached Community law. In view of the provisions of the Treaty of Rome, it would have been surprising if the court had refused to act.

In the same way, in the 1960s and 1970s the English courts developed the doctrine of judicial review to provide a remedy where the Government had exceeded its powers or acted in a way that was manifestly unfair. In 1981 the judge-made law was put in statutory form. Similarly, the time has come for the nature and extent of the remedy under European law to be defined in the Treaty of Union. Article 189 of the treaty should be amended to confirm the obligation of member states to make good damage caused to individuals or companies as a result of regulations and directives which the member state has failed to implement within the time allowed by the directive. In order to recover damages, i) rights must be granted to individuals as a result of the legislation, ii) the contents of the rights must be identified on the basis of the provisions of the directive or regulation and iii) there must be a causal link between the state's obligations and the damage to the individual as a result of which the individual can prove loss or damage. Once the legislation has been implemented the damages would be, as now, a matter for the national courts.

There is a further problem on damages (which applies also to the interpretation of tax legislation in the UK). The treaty should be

amended to provide that damages (including repayment of tax) should be limited to a period no longer than the normal limitation period in a member state.

The present adverse comments about the court may make it difficult to discuss objectively other desirable proposals for reform which would attract substantial support not only in the United Kingdom but in many other European countries. A political mechanism should be provided at Community level through the Council of Ministers to review the court's decisions where they are thought to have gone beyond what the national governments intended. Any changes should not be retrospective but apply to future cases. This could be achieved by a two-stage process. A technical legal committee of the Council of Ministers would review the discussions which led up to the adoption of the particular provisions and would report on whether the court's decision reflected the views of the

member states when the legislation was enacted. If it did not reflect the intention of the member states, a simple majority could pass the necessary amendments to the legislation. I would not have an appeal from the Court of Justice to another body, as some have suggested.

Another area which needs to be considered is the question of subsidiarity. All EU legislation should identify whether in accordance with Article B and Article 3 (b) of the treaty, a measure is i) exclusively within the competence of the European Union, ii) shared between the Union and the member states or iii) within the exclusive competence of the member states. Where it is not within the competence of the Union, the court should not have jurisdiction except over whether, under the treaty, it is covered by the doctrine of subsidiarity.

A further, wider issue for the member states is whether there are competences, eg, the power to make treaties, human rights, granting of visas which are fundamental and should be constitutionally within the exclusive competence of the nation state.

Other issues relate to the court itself: how it can cope with the increased workload as a result of Maastricht and future accession of new states, whether the judges should be permitted to give dissenting opinions, whether they should have one term of, say, nine years, be permitted to amend their own rules and have power to order a speedy trial in place of interim measures. These important issues need to be debated in an atmosphere divorced from the question of whether or not the judges of the court are exceeding their powers. The debate requires light, not heat.

● The author, European Bar Council (ECBE) president in 1993, is in practice at 3 Verulam Buildings, Grays Inn, London WC1.

JOHN TOULMIN, QC

This important idea deserves to be looked at closely — it may well be of value in Britain

veloped out of frustration with a costly and overcrowded prison system where overcrowding was so extreme that violent non-drug offenders had to be discharged to make way for drug offenders — sometimes themselves non-violent. It is sustained by interest and enthusiasm from the judges, by research evidence which shows it is cost-effective, and by conviction data, which gives very positive results. Already almost 33,000 offenders have passed through the system: the retention rate is about 71 per cent, far higher than for traditional forms of

the traditional sense in which courts are defined — and the role of the judge has changed to one of an active participant with a clear and biased view. He or she wants to keep the offender in the programme and to cure his addiction. This makes the judge a sort of legal social worker, which fits uneasily into a system in which the main aim is punishment. There are also many critics among the public defenders and prosecutors — prosecutors have remained the most trenchant critics of Drug Courts. Public Defenders find they have a less forceful role in

Supporters brush aside the criticisms. They point to the courts' successes and offer a pragmatic justification. What price the dignity of the court and judge, they ask, when success rates are high, while in prison and probation they are low? Again and again, the point is made: Drug Courts work. Not only do they reduce drug use and reduce criminality, they reduce costs: for every \$1 spent on the Drug Court, \$7 is saved in the criminal justice system.

Their success is clear for all to see: hence the political will to develop them. Plans are afoot to extend the Drug Court to the juvenile justice system.

contract, and turned to FT Law & Tax, which publishes the *Solicitors Journal*.

Four publishers tendered to produce the 1997 directory. It is expected to come out in September to be distributed free to more than 8,000 solicitors' firms. Plans are afoot to put parts of the directory on the Internet.

All together now EVEN lawyers, accountants, and bankers can play together in harmony when it's for charity. On June 20 musicians and singers from law firms Freshfields, Lovell White Durrant, Macfarlanes, Taylor Joynson Garrett and Wilde Sapte will join musicians from banks BZW and Goldman Sachs and accountants KPMG and Binders at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street. The concert will raise funds for St John Ambulance and the St Bride's restoration fund. Details: Tim Olsen on 0171-236 0066.

SCRIVENOR

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In at the deep end

GARY Streeter, the Lord Chancellor's new junior minister, is a partner with Foot & Bowden, the Plymouth firm of Tony Holland, the former Law Society president, who had a hand in shaping the Lord Chancellor's thinking on the forthcoming legal aid White Paper. Mr Streeter, 40, has been assistant government chief whip since 1995 and has a good legal pedigree: before that he was PPS to the Solicitor-General and also to the Attorney-General.

He arrives in his new job at a critical moment. The future of the Family Law Bill — report stage next week — lies in the balance, with Labour threatening to scupper this amended version.

Expert view

SIR Richard Scott will give his views on how the civil

justice system should be reformed at the London School of Economics today. In January Sir Richard was given special responsibility by Lord Mackay of Clashfern for overseeing implementation of Lord Woolf's civil justice system reforms. But will he keep the job now that Lord Woolf is Master of the Rolls?



Streeter: legal pedigree

His talk is organised by the LSE lawyers group and is open to the public. It is in the LSE's old Houghton Street theatre at 6pm.

● DR David Thomas, critic of the Government's sentencing reforms, has just been made an honorary QC. He is a reader in criminal justice at Cambridge, a Vice-Master of Trinity Hall and an associate tenant of Cloisters, the radical set led by Laura Cox, QC.

Changing horses

THE important Bar Council contract for the production of its annual *Bar Directory* has switched from one rival legal publishing house to another.

The council has stopped using Legalese, publishers of *The Legal 500* directory and *Legal Business* magazine, at the end of its five-year

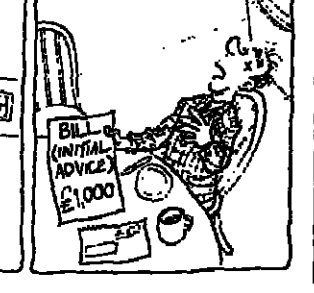
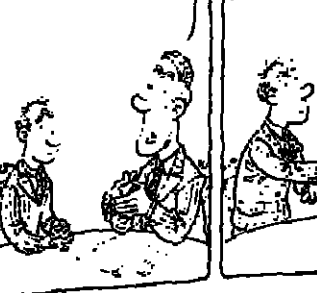
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Controversy continues to dog the Crown Prosecution Service. Here three legal experts analyse what they see as its shortcomings

Bad morale, too dogmatic and low standards

The Crown Prosecution Service was accused in these pages by Neil Addison (Law, April 23) of having an overcentralised, bureaucratic, autocratic management structure, and of lacking a clear sense of purpose.

In response, Graham Duff (Law, April 30) claimed that since 1992, the CPS has been doing a job that was already being done "even better and more efficiently". He described an attitude of openness and helpfulness as "another level of excellence to which the staff aspire". The service, he said, provided "accountability for high quality standards and consistency".

No one who works in the criminal justice system could recognise the CPS from Mr Duff's words. The reality, at least in London, is of an organisation low in morale, high in dogma and with low standards when it comes to the core task of preparing prosecutions. A week, in any London CPS office or court would demonstrate this to Mr Duff. And anyone who can describe the CPS as an organisation that "makes the best use of the skills and knowledge of its staff" should meet some of the disillusioned and marginalised ones who carry the can for its failings in court.

The real issue raised by the two articles is not a sterile debate over whether the CPS has become more or less centralised. It is about the quality of prosecution in our criminal justice system. Many people, in and outside the CPS, believe this should not be allowed to decline further. What we need is honest, open debate, not propaganda and the concealment of inadequacies through misleading statistics.

Take the figure quoted by Mr Duff for the conviction rate in the Crown Court, said to be 90 per cent. A more meaningful figure is obtained if all guilty pleas are extracted. It then becomes 58 per cent of all contested cases. But both figures have little meaning as performance indicators. The function of the prosecution is not merely to obtain convictions but to present cases where the evidence discloses a realistic prospect of conviction. There are all sorts of reasons why a jury may choose to acquit which would not necessarily make the prosecution at fault.

Another statistic often quoted by the CPS is its low rate of case discontinuance. The suggestion is that cases are so rigorously vetted that unless fresh circumstances arise, they are seldomly discontinued.

The reality is very different. A low discontinuance rate can also be achieved simply by refusing to discontinue cases. They may eventually be thrown out by a judge or jury, but the CPS cannot be criticised for this, and a wholly misleading figure emerges. A more sophisticated barometer of performance is required.

What does all this mean for the criminal justice system? One of the most important qualities required by a prosecutor is confidence, a quality the CPS lacks. This is because a criminal trial is not a straightforward contest between prosecution and defence. The prosecution, with the resources of the State at its disposal, has a duty to do justice. That includes taking account of the interests of the defendant. There are many decisions relating to disclosure, charging and admissibility of evidence which a prosecutor has to take, and which involve wider considerations than how best to obtain a conviction.

So at the heart of prosecuting is potential for conflict. This comes from the pressure to obtain a conviction, from the police, victims or personal feelings about a case and from the duty to be objective and open. But this is what can make prosecuting such a rewarding and challenging occupation. When not resolved, however, this conflict has led to the



Police making an arrest: but will any subsequent case be presented as well as it can possibly be when it goes to court?

miscarriage cases that have so damaged the criminal justice system.

Given this role, the one thing the prosecutor can be sure of is that he or she will make mistakes and be unpopular. But if taken competently and for good reasons, those decisions will be justifiable. But no prosecutor with one eye on the

statistics, one on the latest policy change and both on covering his own back is in a position to take the hard decisions that prosecuting requires. His motivation is more likely to be covering up failings of the CPS than the pursuit of excellence.

A high quality prosecution service could present cases more effectively. It could

also better protect the innocent by ensuring that no one is convicted by reason of emotional pressure, prejudice or ignorance of all the facts.

DAVID JEREMY

The author is a barrister who conducts Crown Court cases for the CPS.

Time to arrest the worrying decline

I READ Graham Duff's recent article with regret because it highlights the inability of the CPS management to look at itself critically and to address the huge concerns expressed by its lawyers and, ultimately, by the public at the receiving end of its inadequacies. It is almost trite to say the CPS is held in low regard by those who appreciate what a prosecution service should be.

The service was set up with limitations, including the fact that Crown prosecutors have no rights of audience in the higher courts, being restricted to magistrates courts. Experienced lawyers cannot, therefore, be attracted because their career prospects are limited. As a result, there were problems in recruiting the right calibre of lawyer. The CPS resorted to training members of its own

staff to qualify as lawyers, with — in my view — indifferent results.

Over time, some of these lawyers have risen to positions of prominence in the organisation. Any reform that fails to tackle this will not begin to address the service's fundamental defects or arrest its lack of vision.

It is no answer to cite statistics about numbers of cases prosecuted. The issue cannot be whether the CPS successfully prosecuted 1.4 million cases a year, but how well these cases are prepared and whether the public has grounds for confidence that the job is in good hands. The original idea of separating investigation and prosecution of crime was excellent. If sufficient regard had been paid to it over the years, confidence might not have been so eroded. Now, however, a

shift can be seen towards fudging these respective roles.

We have a situation in which Crown prosecutors can set up shop at police stations. How, then, can the lawyer retain the detachment from the police necessary for an independent review of the cases brought by that police station? I agree that officers would benefit from legal advice, but that can be achieved by retaining private practice lawyers.

In my last year, morale was low and experienced lawyers were leant on by management to spend time dealing with administration and budgetary matters instead of on case work. The more senior you become, the less contact you have with legal matters. This trend has to be reversed. There is huge pressure to conform and obey. Some staff still

render excellent service. But for how long? The last appraisal report by my boss contained a line that says much about the future: "Chuck is learning there is a difference between the independent advocate and the Crown prosecutor." I was not able to seek clarification on this; but it was offered as evidence of my inadequacy.

There are courageous members of staff who have weathered the storm and are trying to make sense of what is regrettably an unattractive job. This is certainly no time for self-congratulatory gestures about the achievements of the service.

CHUCK NDUKA-ZE

The author is a practising barrister and an attorney in California.

You need a special talent

I FOUND Graham Duff's "defence" to against Neil Addison's article to be pure propaganda — much of it out of touch with reality.

I should like to speak up, in a personal capacity, on behalf of the victim of crime — who has hardly had a mention so far.

Prosecuting crime requires a particular talent. The prosecutor has to be relentless, yet scrupulously fair. This quality of prosecuting cannot be bought or manufactured: it was possessed by the present Director of the CPS, Barbara Mills, QC, who appeared before me many times in Court 15 at the Old Bailey where I sat for 18 years. The need to be fair extends not only to the criminal but also the victim — and, as Mr Addison argued, to the general public.

Under Mrs Mills, however, the service has become over-bureaucratised, and is guilty of appalling delays and an excessive amount of plea-bargaining. Before the CPS, most prosecutions were conducted by the local police. The system was not perfect but it was quick, cheap and very effective. In the CPS's ten years, police officers have aged, been promoted or left the service. Hardly any officer below the superintendent rank has experience of conducting a prosecution. More than 90 per cent of all crime is tried in the magistrates' court, so why not return most of the criminal work in magistrates' courts to the police while they still have sufficient expertise and experience to undertake this crucial task?

As an active member of Victim Support, I am only too aware of how, in practice, the victim of crime is ignored. Recently an old woman — whose beautiful home had been burgled — asked me to accompany her to court for the hearing because she was nervous and without experience of such an event. To her astonishment, and mine, the case was prosecuted by another team of the CPS — not the team which agreed that the victim and I should attend court.

To make matters worse, the victim's name and address were published in the local newspapers, thus virtually ensuring that her house would again be burgled.

The CPS is not well paid and does not necessarily attract the best people. The resources saved by restricting its work to the more important Crown Court work should be switched to the police, who are undermanned and whose morale is generally low.

MICHAEL ARGYLE

His Honour Michael Argyle was a Central Criminal Court judge from 1970 to 1988.

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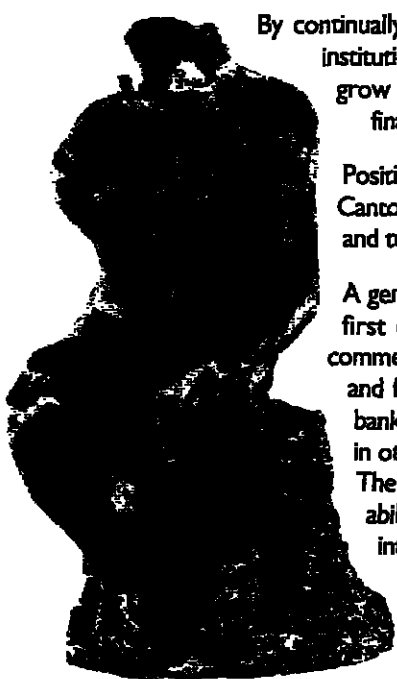
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Court of Appeal

Law Report June 11 1996

Queen's Bench Division

No power to make interim order No duty to put applicant on list

In re G (a Minor) (Adoption: Freeing order)

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Saville and Mr Justice Douglas Brown

[Judgment June 5]

When exercising its discretion under section 20 of the Adoption Act 1976, as amended by Schedule 10 to the Children Act 1989, to make an order freeing a child for adoption, the court has no jurisdiction to make an interim care order in favour of the local authority if it is to be made on the basis of the criteria for revocation of the freeing order.

The Court of Appeal so held when, inter alia, dismissing the appeal of a mother against a refusal by Judge Wilcock, QC, sitting in Barnstaple County Court, to revoke a freeing order.

Mrs Sarah Forster for the mother, Mr Mark Evans, QC and Miss Hayley Griffiths for the local authority, Mr James Mumby, QC and Mr Steven Jones for the guardian ad litem; Mr and Mrs H in person.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that the criteria for making a freeing order in the case of the child were clearly met when the order was made in November 1993. It was, however, the freeing application had been made at the time that the judge heard the revocation application, in October 1995, it seemed clear that those

criteria would not have been met. The child was no longer placed for adoption and there was no immediate prospect of placing him.

If, therefore, the criteria for revocation were similar to those criteria required for the making of the freeing order, the court would have no jurisdiction to make an interim care order in favour of the local authority if it is to be made on the basis of the criteria for revocation of the freeing order.

Unlike the mandatory requirement to make the order under section 18 if the criteria were not met, section 20 was discretionary. But the court was limited in the exercise of its discretion. It was given a stark choice: either to revoke the freeing order or to refuse the application. If the order was revoked the parent's resumption of parental responsibility was unqualified.

The local authority could only resume any form of statutory control under Part IV of the 1989 Act by beginning again the public law process. Consequently, if the order was revoked there was nothing in the Adoption Act to prevent the return of the child immediately to the parent who had resumed parental responsibility.

Such a result was clearly, from

the wording of the statute, deliberate. The only other order which the court could make was to refuse the application. In that case the former parent lost even the residual rights which were conferred by section 19 and 20 to receive progress reports or the right to make any further application to revoke without leave.

The position which arose in the instant case of a child rightly freed for adoption who subsequently became unlikely to be adopted but could not be rehabilitated with his family did not appear to be directly within the contemplation of those who drafted the section and it would seem that there was a lacuna.

Miss Forster had urged the court to revoke the order and invoke the provisions of the Children Act to fill the gap by inviting the local authority to apply for an interim care order. However, such a course ran counter to the express purpose of the section.

Although the position of the child in a sort of adoption limbo, potentially for the rest of his childhood appeared odd, Parliament had had the opportunity in passing the Children Act to make amendments in the Adoption Act which it did, including amendments to section 20. The philosophy behind section 20 remained the rejection of public law interven-

tion and the intention to return the child to the control of the parent.

Her Ladyship retained some concern that a child who might never be adopted remained freed for adoption during his minority and his mother, although she had a contact order and saw him, remained a former parent with no opportunity under the Adoption Act to be supplied with progress reports and no realistic further opportunity to be heard as to the future of the freeing order.

The Department of Health and the Welsh Office had, however, provided for public consultation the draft Adoption Bill which proposed the abolition of freeing orders and the substitution of placement orders. The adoption agency would be able to apply to revoke the placement order and a care order would be suspended while the placement order was in place.

Also, interestingly, allowed for a placement order to continue until the child attained the age of 18. The proposed changes would correct the unsatisfactory situation which had arisen in the instant case.

Lord Justice Saville and Mr Justice Douglas Brown agreed.

Solicitors: Charlesworth Nicholls & Co. Crediton; Mr Philip Jenkins, Exeter; Miss Kay Firth-Butterfield, Taunton.

Regina v Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council, Ex parte Watters

Before Mr Justice Dyson

[Judgment May 24]

A council was not obliged to place all applicants falling within section 22 of the Housing Act 1985 on its housing waiting list.

Mr Justice Dyson so stated in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an application for judicial review by Mrs Helen Watters of decisions by Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council made initially on March 28, 1995 and by the council's housing appeals panel on March 14, 1996 not to permit her to enter the waiting list for accommodation.

Until 1992 Mrs Watters, her husband and five children lived in council accommodation but were evicted for non-payment of rent arrears. They secured a tenancy in the private sector of a three-bedroom house which the council agreed was overcrowded. In 1995 she applied to be placed on the council housing list but was refused because of the earlier rent arrears.

Section 22 of the Housing Act 1985 provides: "A local housing authority shall secure that in the selection of their tenants a reasonable preference is given to - (a) persons occupying insanitary or overcrowded houses; (b) persons having large families; (c) persons living under unsatisfactory housing conditions..."

Mr Terence Gallivan for Mrs Watters; Miss Katie Asanotis for the council.

MR JUSTICE DYSON said that

at all material times, the council's two weeks rent arrears policy in relation to the allocation of housing, applied both to current and former council tenants.

The substance of the policy was that such tenants would not be eligible for council housing unless: (a) they had a social or medical need award of 60 points in one single category; (b) they had made substantial efforts to reduce the arrears of rent; or (c) there were other exceptional circumstances.

The question of whether that policy was lawful or whether it contravened section 22 of the 1985 Act raised issues of general importance as to the true meaning of that section.

Mr Gallivan submitted that the applicant and her family satisfied the criteria stated in section 22(a), (b) and (c) but the policy did not give them "reasonable preference".

In his Lordship's judgment, a council was entitled in selecting its tenants, to take into account the previous record of a tenant, whether as a rent payer or in any other respect. The council had a duty to have regard to the financial consequences of its actions, and to balance its housing revenue account: see *R v Newham London Borough Council, Ex parte Miah* (1995) 25 HLR 281.

It was important, however, also to emphasise that the council was under a statutory obligation to give reasonable preference to persons suffering from any of the needs identified in section 22 of the 1985 Act.

The crucial question was whether the fact that there was a right of appeal in rent arrears cases, where there was a social or

medical need award of 60 points in one single category and/or there were other exceptional circumstances, was sufficient to make the policy comply with section 22.

Mr Gallivan submitted that the policy gave no preference to persons in the position of the applicant and her family at all. He accepted that it was open to the council to take the rent arrears into account, but argued that the obligation to give reasonable preference to the applicant demanded a scheme such as one whereby the applicant would be placed on the waiting list with plus X points for qualifying under section 22(a), (b) and (c), but with minus Y points on account of the arrears of rent. By failing to place them on the list at all, the council must have been in breach of section 22.

His Lordship could not accept that argument. It would have been open to the council, if it thought fit, to operate a scheme along those lines, but, in his Lordship's view, it was not obliged to do so. The only requirement was to give reasonable preference to persons falling within section 22(a), (b) and (c).

In his Lordship's judgment, the council's policy was calculated to satisfy that requirement. In establishing the criteria to be applied by the panel, the council clearly had section 22 in mind.

It was entitled to decide that it was reasonable to give less preference to persons within section 22 who were bad tenants, than to persons within that section who were good tenants. The obligation was only to give a reasonable preference. That conceded the possibility that a tenant might be so bad that it was not reasonable to give any preference at all.

In fixing the criteria for allocation, the council was entitled to weigh in the balance the seriousness of the history of behaviour as a tenant, against the severity of the circumstances identified in section 22 that applied in the particular case. The weight given to each factor was a matter for the council to determine and the court would only rarely interfere.

In the present case the policy gave considerable negative weight to non-payment of rent. The council had however mitigated that by relaying where substantial efforts had been made by a tenant to reduce the arrears.

The council had also decided, that even those tenants owing arrears who had not made substantial efforts to reduce them should be allocated housing if they had a substantial social or medical need or if other exceptional circumstances existed. That was a perfectly reasonable response to the statutory obligation imposed by section 22.

His Lordship rejected the submission that the statute required the council to place all applicants falling within section 22 somewhere on the housing list, even though the result of the application of a sophisticated points system would mean that an applicant might always remain at the bottom of the list and might never be rehoused.

His Lordship concluded, therefore, that the policy adopted in relation to council tenants with more than two weeks arrears of rent was lawful.

Solicitors: Roskell Davies & Co. Birmingham; Sharpe Pritchard for Mr Richard Roberts, Wolverhampton.

Parents entitled to be consulted

Regina v Lambeth London Borough Council, Ex parte N

Before Mr Justice Latham

[Judgment May 24]

A local education authority proposing to close a maintained special school was obliged to take reasonable steps to ensure parents of the children of the school were consulted in writing about the proposal and invited to make oral or written representations specifically regarding closure which could include the proposed timetable and the effect of closure on their children and themselves.

Mr Justice Latham so stated in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when granting an application for judicial review by N, acting by his mother as next friend, and quashing a notice of September 22, 1995 of Lambeth's proposal to discontinue Enborne Lodge, a boarding school for children with special educational needs maintained by the authority, in September 1996, purportedly given pursuant to section 183 of the Education Act 1993.

Section 183 of the 1993 Act provides: "(2) Where a local education authority intend ... to discontinue a maintained special school, they shall serve under subsection (6) below notice of their proposals."

Section 184 provides: "(1) Before a body serves notice of any proposals under section 183 of this Act they shall consult such persons as appear to them to be appropriate and in discharging their duty under this subsection the body shall have regard to any guidance given from time to time by the Secretary of State."

Mr John Friel and Miss Deborah Hay for N; Mr Walter Aylen, QC and Mr Karl King for the authority.

MR JUSTICE LATHAM said that the applicant submitted that the authority took place as required by the Act. The obligation was to consult on the proposal relating to the school in question; and the guidance as to the process of consultation issued by the Secretary of State for Education in Circular 3/94 made it clear that parents were particularly important consultees.

The authority were therefore required to take reasonable steps to ensure that the parents were not only informed of the proposal to close the school, but also invited to make representations to them either orally at a meeting or in writing, not on generalities of policy, but with specific regard to the closure of the school which would include the proposed timetable and the effect that that would

genuine receipt of that advice."

In his Lordship's view, no consultation took place as required by the Act. The obligation was to consult on the proposal relating to the school in question; and the guidance as to the process of consultation issued by the Secretary of State for Education in Circular 3/94 made it clear that parents were particularly important consultees.

The authority were therefore required to take reasonable steps to ensure that the parents were not only informed of the proposal to close the school, but also invited to make representations to them either orally at a meeting or in writing, not on generalities of policy, but with specific regard to the closure of the school which would include the proposed timetable and the effect that that would

have on them and their child or children.

No consultation of the sort envisaged by section 184(1) could avoid raising the question in parents' minds of the consequences of closure to their child and therefore the question of what alternative arrangements might be made.

Those might well be matters which could affect the ultimate decision whether or not to go ahead with a notice of closure. Those were precisely the sort of matters which the ministerial circular envisaged would provide the education authority with the material which would be necessary to make a proper and reasoned final decision on closure.

Solicitors: Jacqueline Everett & Co. Streatham; Mr Roger Grant, Lambeth.

Limit to family connection

Regina v Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough Council, Ex parte Avdic

Before Mr Justice Tucker

[Judgment May 24]

In establishing a local connection for the purposes of section 6(1) of the Housing Act 1985, family associations did not extend beyond parents, adult children, or brothers and sisters so that a first cousin once removed was not sufficient.

Mr Justice Tucker so held in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an application by Fehima Avdic, a Bosnian refugee, for judicial review of the decision on September 13, 1995 of Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough Council not to provide housing for her and her family under Part II of the 1985 Act but to

refer her homelessness application to Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council under section 67 of the Act.

Since being granted political asylum in 1992 the applicant had lived in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, but felt isolated and began to suffer anxiety and depression. She wished to move to London where a first cousin once removed lived nearby but her application for housing was refused on the ground that she had no local connection in the borough.

Mr Sylvester Carrott for Ms Avdic; Miss Clare Roberts for the council.

MR JUSTICE TUCKER said that the applicant had relied on the criterion of special circumstances rather than that of family associations in order to establish local connection under section 6(1).

Family associations did not extend beyond parents, adult children, or brothers and sisters. His Lordship said, so that first cousins once removed, or cousins of any description, could not provide the necessary connection.

His Lordship agreed with *R v Slough Borough Council, Ex parte Khan* (1995) 27 HLR 492 that if a family association were too weak to create a local connection it could hardly amount to a special circumstance.

The council had been fully justified in coming to the conclusion that no special circumstances existed such as would provide the applicant with a local connection with the district.

Solicitors: Clure & Co. Fulham; Mr C. T. Mahoney, Hammersmith.

Entitlement to interest on supplement

Shaikh v Bolton Metropolitan District Council

Before Lord Justice Beldam, Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Pill

[Judgment May 24]

An owner-occupier whose land was compulsorily purchased was entitled to interest on the supplement paid to him under section 68 of and Schedule 5 to the Housing Act 1969.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by Mr Mohammed Latif Shaikh from a decision of Mr Recorder Morris, QC, at Bolton County Court on January 31, 1995 that interest was not payable by the defendants, Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council.

Mr Anthony Ellery, QC and Mr Richard Quenby for the appellant; Mr Stephen Sauvain, QC and Mr Alan Evans for the council.

LORD JUSTICE PILL said that the relevant compulsory purchase order was confirmed by the secretary of state on March 11, 1985. The appellant was entitled to the owner-occupier supplement on giving vacant possession on November 28, 1985 and it was paid

to him by instalments in 1991 and 1992, the delay in payment arising from a dispute as to the owner's right to the supplement. If interest was payable the amount was substantial.

Paragraph 1 of Schedule 5 to the 1969 Act provided that the amount to be paid to be determined "in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Schedule".

Paragraph 3(2) of the Schedule provides: "... the amount of any payment under paragraph 1 of this Schedule in respect of an interest shall be determined ... as if it were compensation payable in respect of the compulsory purchase of the interest ... and the payment shall ... be dealt with as if it were such compensation."

The entitlement to interest on compensation arose from section 1(1) of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965, applied to general vesting declaration cases such as the present one by section 10(1) of the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declarations) Act 1981. Any compensation "agreed or awarded" would carry interest. Counsel for the appellant submitted that the owner-occupier supplement

was compensation or alternatively was deemed to be compensation and that interest was payable.

It was common ground that there was no specific statutory provision that the owner-occupier supplement carried interest.

It was also common ground that some payments for the benefit of persons displaced from land, such as home loss payments under section 29 of the Land Compensation Act 1973, did not attract interest.

Counsel for the defendants submitted that throughout the statutory scheme a distinction was maintained between "compensation" and "payments", such as those in Schedule 5. Interest was payable only on compensation which was a term of art covering payments for the acquisition of interests in land.

The expression "dealt with as if it were such compensation" was intended to confer jurisdiction on the Lands Tribunal and to permit the use of Lands Tribunal procedures such as payments into court and enforcement. If Parliament had intended the "payment" to

carry interest, there would have been express provision in the Schedule.

His Lordship accepted that payments, including owner-occupier supplement, were kept distinct from compensation in the statute but because of the deeming provision that distinction did not determine the issue.

It was common ground that the requirement in Schedule 5 that payment should be dealt with as if it were compensation was appropriate to confer jurisdiction on the Lands Tribunal. He would not limit the "dealing" to such procedural purposes.

Interest was payable on compensation agreed or awarded and the requirement to deal with owner-occupier supplement as if it were compensation, generally expressed as it was, included a requirement to pay interest on the supplement.

Lord Justice Evans delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Beldam agreed with both judgments.

Solicitors: Akermans, Worthing; Mr John W. G. MacGregor, Bolton.

Relying on successor as pay comparator

Diocese of Hallam Trustee v Connaughton

Before Mr Justice Holland, Mr J. Crosby and Mr D. A. Lambert

[Judgment May 21]

An industrial tribunal had jurisdiction to hear a claim for equal pay under article 119 of the EC Treaty where an applicant relied on a comparator appointed after her resignation.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when dismissing an appeal by the Diocese of Hallam Trustee from a decision of a Sheffield industrial tribunal which found last September on a preliminary issue of law that it had jurisdiction to hear an equal pay claim by the applicant, Miss Josephine Connaughton.

The appeal was on the ground that the tribunal had erred in law in finding that the applicant was

entitled to rely on a comparator who had succeeded to her post as director of music.

Article 119 provides: "Each member state shall ... subsequently maintain the application of the principle that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work."

Miss Alison Hampton for the diocese trustee; Miss Dinah Rose for Miss Connaughton.

MR JUSTICE HOLLAND said that the applicant was the first holder of the post of director of music. In April 1994 she gave notice of termination of her employment. Her salary was then £11,138 a year. Her successor, a man, was appointed at £20,000.

The applicant could not invoke a comparison as was required by the Equal Pay Act 1970, as amended by the Sex Discrimination Act 1985,

with a male employee contemporaneously in the same employment, for there was none. But it was common ground that the Act had to be regarded as supplemented by article 119 to the extent that the principle of equal pay for men and women for equal work was not fully achieved by the Act.

The question was whether the applicant, in the absence of any male comparator, preceding or contemporaneous, had a legitimate ground for complaint within the jurisdiction of the industrial tribunal.

The appeal tribunal considered that the industrial tribunal had jurisdiction to adjudicate on claims for equal pay to which the provisions of article 119 applied: see *Albion Shipping Agency v Arnold* (1982) 1 WLR 22.

The next issue was the question

as to the substantive law that the tribunal should apply to the facts. Vital assistance had been given by the European Court of Justice in *Case No 129/79, McCarty v Ltd v Smith* (1980) 1 CR 672 where they ruled that the principle of equal pay was not confined to situations of contemporaneous employment.

The analysis of article 119 in that case satisfied the appeal tribunal that the scope of that article was such as to allow the applicant to advance a case to the effect that the male successor's contract was so proximate to her own as to render him an effective comparator.

The appeal would be dismissed and the case remitted to an industrial tribunal.

Solicitors: Benson Burdakin with Flint & Co. Sheffield; Pinsent Curtis, Leeds.

Alternative dispute resolution

Practice Statement (Alternative Dispute Resolution)

Judges of the Commercial Court could invite parties in appropriate cases to consider alternative dispute resolution on the hearing of the first inter partes summons at which directions for the interlocutory progress of the action were to be given or at subsequent inter partes hearings at which such directions were sought.

Mr Justice Waller, judge in charge of the commercial list, so stated in a practice statement issued in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division on June 7.

MR JUSTICE WALLER said that on December 10, 1993 Mr Justice Cresswell issued Practice Statement (Commercial Cases: Alternative Dispute Resolution) (1993) 1 WLR 141 indicating that the judges of the Commercial Court wished to encourage parties to consider the use of ADR.

In consequence of that practice statement, amendments were made to the standard questions to be answered by the parties in preparation for the summons for directions and to the standard questions to be answered as part of the pre-trial check list.

Additional questions were inserted in order to direct the attention of the parties and their legal advisers to ADR as a means of settling their disputes: see Practice Direction (Commercial Court: Practice Guide) (1994) 1 WLR 1270. By that practice direction, legal advisers were urged to ensure that parties were fully informed as to the most effective means of resolving the particular dispute.

The judges of the Commercial Court in conjunction with the Commercial Court Committee had recently considered whether it was now desirable that any further steps should be taken to encourage the wider use of ADR as a means of settling disputes pending before the court.

In the belief that, whereas the Commercial Court would remain an entirely appropriate forum for resolving most of the disputes which were commenced before it, the settlement of disputes by means of ADR (i) significantly helped to save litigants the ever-mounting cost of bringing their cases to trial; (ii) saved them the delay of litigation for technical finality in their disputes; (iii) enabled them to

achieve settlement of their disputes while preserving their existing commercial relationships and market reputation; (iv) provided them with a wider range of settlement solutions than those offered by litigation; and (v) was likely to make a substantial contribution to the more efficient use of judicial resources, the judges would henceforth adopt the following practice on the hearing of the first inter partes summons at which directions for the interlocutory progress of the action were given or at subsequent inter partes hearings at which such directions were sought.

If it should appear to the judge that the action before him or any of the issues arising in it were particularly appropriate for an attempt at settlement by ADR techniques but that the parties had not previously attempted settlement by such means, he could invite the parties to take positive steps to set in motion ADR procedures.

The judge could, if he considered it appropriate, adjourn the proceedings then before him for a specified period of time to encourage and enable the parties to take such steps. He might for that purpose extend the time for compliance by the parties or either of them with any requirement under the Rules of the Supreme Court or previous interlocutory orders in the proceedings.

If, after discussion with those representing the parties, it appeared to the judge that an early neutral evaluation was likely to assist in the resolution of the matters in dispute, he could offer to provide that evaluation himself or to seek another judge to do so.

If that course was accepted by the parties, the judge could then upon giving directions as to such preparatory steps for that evaluation and the form which it was to take as he considered appropriate. The parties would in that event be required to arrange with the Commercial Court Listing Office the time for the evaluation hearing having regard to the availability of the judge concerned.

Where early neutral evaluation was provided by a judge, that judge would, unless the parties otherwise agreed, take no further part in the proceedings either for the purposes of the hearing of the summons or as trial judge.

Except where an early neutral evaluation was to be provided by a judge, the parties would be responsible for agreeing upon a neutral for the purposes of ADR and would be responsible for his fees and expenses.

As indicated in the practice statement on ADR made by Mr Justice Cresswell on December 10, 1993, the Clerk to the Commercial Court kept a list of individuals and bodies that offered mediation, conciliation and other ADR services. If, after ADR had been recommended to them by the judge, the parties were unable to agree upon a neutral for ADR they could by consent refer to the judge for assistance in reaching such agreement.

On the hearing of any summons in the course of which the judge invited the parties to take steps to resolve their differences by ADR he could on that occasion make such order as to the costs that the parties might incur by reason of their using or attempting to use ADR as might in all the circumstances seem appropriate.

Should the parties be unable to resolve their differences by ADR or otherwise within the period of any such adjournment as might be ordered, they could resume the proceedings for directions or other summons for the purpose of reporting back to the judge what progress had been made by way of ADR (such report to cover only the process adopted and its outcome, not the substantive contact between the parties and their advisers) and whether further time was required for the purposes of ADR, and, where efforts towards settlement by means of ADR had proved fruitless, for the purpose of obtaining further interlocutory directions in the proceedings.

Parties to pending proceedings who considered that ADR might be an appropriate form of dispute resolution for those proceedings or who wished to discuss the applicability of ADR with a commercial judge would be strongly encouraged to bring on the summons for directions at an earlier stage in the proceedings than would otherwise be justifiable.

The fact that in such a case pleadings had not yet closed or that discovery had not yet been completed would not be regarded by the court as a reason for declining to consider the applicability of ADR in that case.

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■ VISUAL ART 1

Giant leap for mankind: the only existing Greek Golden Age painting goes on show in Venice



■ VISUAL ART 2

In Dublin's fair city: the National Gallery of Ireland reopens after a superb refurbishment

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ VISUAL ART 3

Entente cordiale: the Gallic-tinged paintings of Mildred Bendall go on show at Whitford Fine Art



■ VISUAL ART 4

Ten years in the making, the show of Gold Backs 1250-1480 offers a dazzling glimpse of the medieval mind

VISUAL ART: Peter Stothard reviews the revelatory show of Western Greek treasures at the Palazzo Grassi in Venice

Miraculous dive into an ancient world

Imagine a wealthy art collector who wanted to hang on his wall a work from every major period of painting. However determined he might be to have his whim, one gap in the collection would be guaranteed. From what is arguably the greatest of all periods for artistic production, the Greek Golden Age of the 5th century BC, only a single example survives.

Normally it takes some effort even to see the painting known as the Paestum Diver in the small southern Italian museum close to where it was discovered in 1968. But for the rest of the summer this unique creature from the age of Phidias and Pindar, which both in conception and very existence is among the world's most miraculous images, is on display in Venice. It shares the Palazzo Grassi with hundreds of other treasures left behind in Italy by the so-called Western Greeks between the 13th and 3rd centuries BC. No one who goes to see it will be disappointed, not even the manic acquirer who may yearn to take it home.

The Diver is painted on the roof of a tomb. That is in itself a rarity. In their homeland the Greeks had paintings on the walls of their houses, not inside their burial chambers. But Greek colonists, men and women who found their birthplace either politically uncomfortable or economically confining, adopted subtly different habits in their new towns on the Sicilian and southern Italian coasts.

The Diver is the central part of a painting which depicts a man's pleasures in life, his boy lover, his flute girl, his music and fine wine; but then, on the roof of the plastered coffin, comes his journey to the next world. This is in a different, more abstract style. He is caught by the artist naked in mid-air, plunging between a marble wall and blue water, away from one bent, entangling tree and towards another.

Scholars have argued for 30 years about what the sequence might mean. The wall might be the Pillars of Hercules, the end of the known Mediterranean world for the Greeks; the water could be the Atlantic. Unless similar work appears elsewhere, those arguments are likely to continue. What is clear, however, from its part in this exhibition is the challenge of exploring how the Western Greeks lived and worked alongside the Italians of their time. It is a



The Paestum Diver: the only surviving painting from the Greek Golden Age of the 5th century BC, it was found in southern Italy in 1968 and has been the subject of scholarly speculation ever since

commonplace that much of our own European culture came from the mixing of Greek and Roman after the Roman conquest of Greece in the 2nd century; this exhibition focuses our minds on the minglings in the centuries before.

At the top of the steps as visitors enter the Palazzo is another curiously alien piece of Greek art, this time a marble statue of a young man found in the Sicilian town of Motya. Its head is severely masculine, as though a portrait of a fighter. Its body, right arm raised, left hand on hip and all enclosed in

a long, shimmering, clinging shirt, is from another softer age. The impact recalled for me, unhelpfully I first thought, the Pirelli poster in which the black Olympic sprinter, Carl Lewis, poses in red high-heeled shoes. On further reflection the comparison did not seem so crazy after all. The piece is contradictory, playful and adventurous, all signs of the emancipated Greeks of the West. According to the catalogue the subject might even be an athletic hero.

The new Greek cities were notorious in later antiquity for their

wealth, licentiousness and luxury. The best known was not Elea, home of Parmenides, Zeno and the birthplace of modern philosophy, but Sybaris, where the living was easy and a life of sexual excess easier still. That legacy lingers on. The exhibition does contain a portrait bust of Parmenides, a suitable conversation piece for the theme of how the thinker who first denied the validity of appearances might himself have appeared. But by far the most popular exhibit in Venice is the so-called Ludovisi Throne, probably part of a 5th-

century altar to Aphrodite which shows the goddess, clad in a soaked sheer chemise, being helped out of the water by two crouching female attendants.

This masterpiece of sensuality is thought to have once formed part of a shrine for sanctified prostitution. The truth of this claim is likely to remain obscure: as is the authenticity of a similar throne from the Boston museum which for the first time can be seen alongside the superior Ludovisi model. Much

scholastic firepower has been deployed on this American treasure, which first appeared in Rome at the end of the 19th century suspiciously soon after its rival: all I can say is that it looks false to me.

The arrangement of exhibits at the Palazzo Grassi is mastery. Hundreds of smaller objects — from the Porticello philosopher, who is probably the earliest known subject of a Greek portrait, to the delightful, almost decadent, Paestum study of Eros asleep — are on display. Each is accompanied by English as well as Italian text.

Related collections can also be seen this year in southern Italian towns closer to where the Western Greeks themselves chose to live. The one at Paestum itself is particularly notable. Although its Diver is temporarily out of town, the museum shows graphically how the imported glories of Greece became submerged in the 4th century by Italian tribes who would soon themselves become subject to Rome.

● The author is Editor of The Times
● The Western Greeks is in Venice at the Palazzo Grassi (003941-523 5133) until Dec 8

Pretty as the pictures

Isabel Carlisle visits Ireland's National Gallery, in Dublin, recently reopened after a mammoth facelift

The National Gallery of Ireland in Dublin has just reopened with an £19 million restructuring and facelift that has incorporated a complete rehanging of all the paintings. Where once there were 400 works on display, now there are 700. But that is not all. Fired with the knowledge that Dublin is now the second most popular weekend

destination in Europe, after Paris, the gallery is planning to put itself on the international exhibition circuit with a millennial extension that includes a new temporary exhibition space.

Back in the early 1980s there were so many holes in the roof of the original 1854 building that wind and rain were getting in and paintings had to

be moved. Help came in the form of £1,300,000 of lottery money from the Dublin Government. This was quickly followed by £1.1 million for rewiring, fireproofing, new lighting, a new security system and a new decorative scheme for that core section of the gallery. Director Raymond Keaveney saw a sudden increase in visitors from 600,000 a year to a million in 1990.

The public began to take notice, Keaveney says: so did the government. A plan drawn up in the 1980s to completely modernise the 1903 and 1968 wings was given the go-ahead. Now the 1968 (north) wing has 14 new galleries, mainly for British art. Sir Joshua Reynolds's portrait of Charles Coote, Earl of Bellamont, in his magnificent pink robes and ostrich plumes as a Knight of the Bath, is here. So is Hogarth's double portrait of the Mackintosh children, which came to the gallery in 1918 with the bequest of Old Masters by Sir Hugh Lane, a former director of the gallery.

Where once there was a dingy interior courtyard, there is now a glassed-over space with sea-green walls for a state-of-the-art museum restaurant. From here, stairs lead to a new prints and drawings gallery on an upper level. Elsewhere an enlarged version of Norman Foster's glass lift in the Sackler Galleries of London's Royal Academy rises up through four floors and is capable of taking the largest paintings up to a new storage room where works are hung on sliding racks.

One of the paintings restored by the conservation department for the reopening was the Goya portrait of Dona Antonia Zarate, one of the works in the Beit bequest stolen from Russborough House in 1986. Cut out of its frame and rolled up, the painting was the worst damaged of the lot, with paint flaking off the canvas.



Galleries lead on, one from the other, in the redecorated Milltown Wing of the National Gallery of Ireland

As Brian Kennedy, the deputy director, points out, the 17 works of the Beit bequest were the largest single gift of Old Master paintings to any national gallery in the 1980s. That — together with the Hugh Lane purchase fund; the regular income from one third of George Bernard Shaw's residual estate; and £1.15 million worth of gifts in the past ten years — means that Dublin has been steadily adding to its already fine collection.

Mantegna's little grisaille of *Judith with the head of Holofernes* was loaned to the Mantegna exhibition at the Royal Academy in London; Perugino's *Pietà* was shown at the London National Gallery's exhibition on the young Michelangelo. Another star of the

collection is Caravaggio's dramatic *The Taking of Christ*, discovered in 1990 in the house of the Dublin Jesuit community and now on indefinite loan to the gallery.

The existing gallery complex faces on to Merrion Square, set back behind a sweep of adjacent space, the National Gallery is planning a 50,000 sq ft extension that will give it a new entrance on Clare Street, a main Dublin thoroughfare for tourists.

The new building will provide the gallery with a large area for temporary shows. "We will be able to attract exhibitions of the calibre of the Cézanne show in London or the Vermeer exhibition in The Hague," Keaveney says.

DESPISE the English name, as an artist Mildred Bendall was more French than anything else. She was born in Bordeaux in 1891, the child of an English merchant father and a French mother. She studied in the atelier of Felix Carpe and soon began winning prizes for painting in Bordeaux and then Paris.

But it was not until she was 36 that the most important formative experience came to her, when she enrolled in the Académie de la Grande Chaumière and became friendly with Matisse. She continued to paint throughout her long life — she died in 1977 — and exhibited regularly. As she had private means she never needed to push her career, which probably limited her fame.

This show is a mini-retrospective, outlining her development from the sober but expressive realism of her 1914 prizewinner *Coin de salon Bordelais*, on through Impressionism and Post-Impressionism, up to the evident impact of Matisse on her colours and forms. The style loosens and broadens, she begins to jumble perspectives in her flower pieces and still-lives, and moves towards a sort of freeform semi-abstractism.

The colours retain their Matisse-like radiance to the last, but she applies them from what one is tempted to call a feminine point of view, so that ultimately her work most recalls two English painters of whom she had probably never heard: Winifred Nicholson and Frances Hodgkins. Not, perhaps, a very deep painter, but definitely one who cheers, charms and illuminates. *Whitford Fine Art, 6 Duke Street, London, SW1 (0171-930 9332), until July 5*

More evidently serious business round the corner at Matthiesen, where there is a spectacular show called *Gold Backs 1250-1480*. The accumulation of ten years' planning and acquisition, this is the sort of show which makes one wonder, yet again, that for all the ancient and important art which has been removed from the market into museums,

AROUND THE GALLERIES

there is still so much in private hands.

What these paintings have most obviously in common is that they are all painted against a gold background. Otherwise they are as diverse in style as might be expected of a period of more than two centuries, which dragged art out of the Dark Ages to the threshold of the Renaissance.

It is instructive to see how painting evolved from the static, hieratic art of the post-Byzantine icon towards the lively rhythms of, say, Giovanni del Biondo's *Funerale di Sant'Antonio*. Probably the most extraordinary work in the show is Giovanni di Paolo di Grazia's triptych *The Virgin and Child with Saints* and the *Annunciation*, apparently an early work, in virtually immaculate condition. Even as an early work, in some respects it looks backwards in style, as Giovanni di Paolo

stayed true to his heritage of Siennese Gothic while other painters were forging ahead. In its painstakingly minute technique it is still within hailing distance of medieval manuscript illumination.

Possibly the latest works in the show, a pair of panels depicting St Dominic and St Peter by Antonello da Messina (c.1430-1479), carry us right into the Renaissance: the figure of St Dominic in particular has the air of being a portrait from life, and the saint's attributes, a model of a church in his hand, and a basin holding a rosary at his feet, are rendered with tremendous attention to the most advanced rules of perspective. *Matthiesen Gallery, 718 Mason's Yard, Duke Street St James's, SW1 (0171-930 2437), until July 26*

JOHN
RUSSELL TAYLOR

WILLIAM MORRIS



9 May - 1 September 1996

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Victoria and Albert Museum



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Claes Oldenburg An Anthology



Open until July 5

هكذا من الأصل

THEATRE

The death of Danton inspires Trevor Griffiths's inscrutable new two-hander, *Who Shall Be Happy...*



CHOICE 1

André Previn conducts the LSO in a little *Spring Music*
VENUE: Tonight at the Barbican

THE TIMES ARTS

CHOICE 2

Denis Quilley plays Prospero in a *Tempest* for Regent's Park
VENUE: Tonight at the Open Air Theatre

CHOICE 3

The life and loves of bandleader Billy Cotton come to the stage in a new play
VENUE: Tonight at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry

Tip-top hip-hop

HOW DO you score a mainstream chart hit when you represent the vanguard of hip-hop, a musical form guaranteed to send many daytime radio programmers running in search of the new Mariah Carey release? If New Jersey's Fugees are your model, it is by daring to update some cherished classic of that same daytime genre, one so loved in its original form that a cover version would be viewed as all but sacrilegious.

And the tactic has paid off handsomely for the strutting threesome, thanks to their inspired choice of *Killing Me Softly*... a hit for Roberta Flack in 1973. Though all over the radio in America, it has been withheld from individual sale there in order to tantalise

The Fugees

Forum, NW6

consumers into buying a parent album, *The Score*. Here, though, it made its debut at No 1 in the singles chart and remains there still.

Clever stuff, so far, but how big a concession to their new, expanded audience would the Fugees make at the Forum show? Very little, as it turned out. Undoubtedly, this was the week's hot ticket — a sell-out — and with an hour-long queue for admission to allow holders time to reflect on their good fortune at possessing one. But even hardcore devotees acknowledge that hip-hop can be an ultimately frustrating form to witness live and clear-headed, and though there is some truth to the trio's boast of having taken the genre to the next level, their achievement has yet to extend to the building of a consistently rewarding stage performance.

Rappers Wydel "Clef" Jean and Praksare "Pras" Michel have all the verbal dexterity that *The Score* and a previous album, *Blunted on Reality*, would lead you to expect. A fragmented set allowed little time for them to build momentum, however, and female foil Lauryn "L" Hill was too often underemployed. Her contributions to *Pu-Ge-Lu* (based on an old Teena Marie track) and, of course, *Killing Me Softly*, lifted the show, but still doubts remained. "The Fugees are in the mutha****in' house," we were told on many occasions. "I wish I was in the house," one underwhelmed punter said, opting for a night bus home.

ALAN JACKSON

Everyone but the girl

In the quarter century before the Second World War, several playwrights tapped away at the rock-hard assumption that if an unmarried couple passed a night together, the man had done what, alas, it is natural for men to do, but the woman had committed a sin.

The most skilfully written example of this school was *Hindle Wakes*, by the 31-year-old Stanley Houghton — not his only play but his most

famous, and directed by Miss Annie Horniman for Manchester's Gaiety in 1912.

Alan Jeffcoat, son of the wealthiest mill owner in Hindle, goes off for a weekend in Llandudno with Fanny Hawthorn, one of his father's weavers. Her family get to hear of it and the outraged but canny mother (right-faced Bridget Turner) sees an opportunity for social advancement. Mr Jeffcoat (Ewan Hooper) unexpectedly insists that his son's duty is to marry the girl, overriding Alan's reluctance, his wife's horror and the reactions of Alan's fiancée, daughter of Hindle's second-wealthiest mill owner.

Nobody thinks of asking what Fanny's wishes are and, to emphasise that she is considered to have no role in the decision-making, Houghton keeps her out of the play after her tearful exit from the Hawthorn kitchen in the first scene until her coolly appraising entry into the Jeffcoat mansion in the final scene. Her deflating remark to Alan that, just as she was a bit of fun for him, so he was just a bit of fun for her, shocked some people in 1912.

But Houghton's clever char-

acter-building and humorous exposure of male complacency coexist with a serious social issue — these were qualities that ensured the play's success, and we feel that same interchange between characters is supported by apt physical detail: for instance, in the role of Alan's mother, Sue Johnston makes her hands express fuss, affection, dismay and satisfaction. Sophie Stan-

ley, confidently smiling, and Nicholas Gleaves, never daring to play the young misbehavers, while at the centre of the play Hooper is excellent as a man whose moral certainties crumble before a sturdy young lass who speaks up for herself and the future of her sex.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Dismayed by events: Sue Johnston, as the mother, in Houghton's *Hindle Wakes*

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Lukewarm whimsy

Who Shall Be Happy...?

Bush

era is still haplessly struggling with the dreams and disappointments which surfaced during the hurly-burly of his own. But he goes in for such a lot of disorientating free-association that it is hard to be sure. "To hope is to define ourselves as human," he declares one moment, and the next has launched into imitations of Marat and of that "vapour, that incorporeal idea, that system on

legs", Robespierre. Townsend's splendidly massive, rumbling Danton leaves us in no doubt of the man's authority and power over others, though in this case "others" consist only of a nervous warder played by Kulvinder Ghir. Yet part of the play's point seems to be that authority and power have limits. The revolutionary uses all his magnetism persuading this sad, illiterate boy to smuggle out what's presumably an appeal for help, but the letter never arrives.

And the play's title? The full version is "who shall be happy if not everyone?" Looked at one way, that is a fine, fiery question. Looked at another, it is a sinister one, for it implies that nobody has a right to happiness before Utopia arrives. The play is that Griffiths never generates enough heat for us to care very much how we should take it.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

LONDON

PREVIN CONDUCTS: Nicholas Maw's overture *Spring Music* is given by the London Symphony Orchestra under the baton of André Previn. The orchestra is joined by Gil Shaham for Mozart's elegant Violin Concerto No. 3, with David's Eighth Symphony rounding off this evening's concert performance.

SONG AT SUNSET: New Ruggie's one-man show on Sean O'Casey, drawing on the songs recorded by the playwright when old and blind. Directed by daughter, Sharon O'Casey, Hampstead, Essex, Cottage Centre, NW5 (0171-722-9301). Opened tonight, 7pm. Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat, Sat, 4pm.

THE TEMPEST: Denis Quilley plays Prospero in Patrick Garland's production. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London, EC2 (0171-638-8801). Tonight, 7.30pm. Sat, 7.30pm. Sun, 3pm. Sat, 5pm.

OPEN AIR THEATRE: Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-485-2431). Previews from tonight, 8pm. Opened June 13, 8pm. Then in rep with *The Comedy of Errors*.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: St. James's Theatre, 100 Colmore Row, B2 (0121-625-5572). Mon-Thurs 8pm; Fri and Sat, 7.30pm. Sun, 3pm.

ELVIS: Spurred revival of the 20-year-old tribute show. P.J. Proby plays the Vegas Elvis and Tim Whithall plays the Elvis in his prime. Potentially an emphasis on the late-night go-go on peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

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TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment controlled by Gillian Mazzy

Lloyd Webber, Ibert's *Homage to Mozart* followed, appropriately, by Mozart's *Prague Symphony*. Symphony Hall, Broad Street, B2 (0121-233-3331). Tonight, 8pm.

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NEWCASTLE

Northern Ballet Theatre's production of *Swan Lake*, set to Tchaikovsky's memorable and evocative music. With choreography by Christopher Gable and Michael Boren-Park, and designs by Last Brother.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr)

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA

Tonight 8.00 SALOME

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■ FILM

Golden sounds from the silver screen: why the music of cinema is now big business



■ MUSIC 1

A new virtuoso showpiece from Hans Werner Henze at the opening weekend of the Aldeburgh Festival

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ MUSIC 2

The Guildhall students give a fine performance of Donizetti's early opera *Linda di Chamounix*



■ TOMORROW

How Shared Experience is adapting Tolstoy's epic *War and Peace* for the National Theatre

Read the book, saw the film, bought the music

As the Royal Academy of Music prepares to mount a film-music festival, Michael Church reports on the growth of interest in classic soundtracks

When the Chekhov-inspired *August* is released this August — starring Anthony Hopkins — an accompanying CD will be released. Composer? A. Hopkins, with a certain A. Hopkins at the piano. It is a quietly accomplished piece of pianism, backed by an orgy of strings. If the texture feels familiar, that's because it is: the orchestration is by George Fenton — composer for everything from *Gandhi* and *Jewel in the Crown* to *Memphis Belle* and *Shadowlands* — and it exudes that wistful, wallpaper sweetness which is the obligatory mode for straw-boater sagas.

But the CD will sell. Not the way soundtracks are currently selling for *Twister* or *Mission: Impossible*, but well nonetheless. In its way, it is a perfect product, and there is an awful lot of product swilling around the soundtrack market at present.

Wander round a big store, though, and you will be struck by the sheer longevity of much else that you see. *Trainspotting* — with songs by Britpop's brightest and best — may temporarily dominate the racks, but there are permanent sections devoted to figures like Franz Waxman (*Sunset Boulevard*), Ennio Morricone (*The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*, *A Fistful of Dollars*), and the granddaddy of them all, Bernard Herrmann (*Citizen Kane*, *Vertigo*, *Cape Fear*, *Taxi Driver*).

If new Herrmann compilations are appearing every year, so are fresh packagings of classic French scores. Two CDs of Georges

Auric's magical music for Cocteau's *La Belle et la Bête* have recently been released: one with the original soundtrack complete with dialogue and noises off, the other a superb new recording by the Moscow Symphony Orchestra.

Barnaby Edwards, presiding over the soundtrack department at Tower Records' Piccadilly branch, notes no slackening of interest in cinema's golden age. EMI has just acquired the rights to a huge stash of Forties and Fifties classics — this month it is releasing the soundtrack to *Singin' in the Rain* — and Tower is selling these by the lorry-load. Composers like Jerry Goldsmith (*Star Trek*), John Barry (the James Bond films), and John Williams (Spielberg's resident musician) each have their rock-solid following.

But the big bucks, says Edwards, are at the heavy-promotion end of the spectrum. *Pulp Fiction*, with tracks by Dusty Springfield and Chuck Berry, was his bestseller for the whole of last year. CDs bearing the rubric "songs from and inspired by" are the ones that make the running: these are essentially vehicles for singers with nothing to do with the film in question, but who would otherwise blush unseen.

Only six shops in the world specialise exclusively in soundtracks: 58 Dean St Records, which

has just renamed itself Rare Discs after a move to bigger premises, is one of these, and is the nearest thing to a club-house in this intense little universe. Two Belgian girls I find there are methodically noting down every item in the "film musicals" rack for a friend in Brussels. A burly regular, who has dropped in for his weekly chat, is a notes man with a copy of every score that composer has written. What price would he pay for a rarity he did not have? "Oh, up to £200."

But most of the records here are LPs. "These days everyone's crazy about vinyl," says the manager, Martin Masheter. "The young are as

crazy about the Sixties as we were about the Thirties. For example, they're screaming for anything by Lalo Schiffrin." He points to an LP of Michel Legrand's score for *Never Say Never Again*. "A rare Japanese disc — £60. The people who collect James Bond must have it in vinyl."

Masheter's predecessor in this job is a film-buff who has gone on to create one of the most interesting labels in the business. James Fitzpatrick set up Silva Screen ten years ago to import soundtracks and found himself launched almost by accident, when he and his co-owner took a chance on the score of an unknown film which nobody else wanted to handle: *Crocodile Dundee*. His present business is

predicated on two key notions: that the main profits accrue to copyright owners, who can license their soundtracks to advertisers; and that the cheapest orchestral players can be found in Eastern Europe. "But it's not just cheapness, it's also that they're more suited to the work," he says. "Musicians in Prague still play with the rich string vibrato which people like Dmitri Tsimkin expected. You can't get that in London now." He has assembled his own orchestra in Prague, and makes dozens of recordings each year.

His policy of "sub-licensing" pays rich dividends: his recording of Maurice Jarre's theme for *Lawrence of Arabia* currently under-scores television ads for an under-arm deodorant. And he keeps a careful balance between music that pays the rent, and music he believes in: *The Greatest Themes from the Films of Arnold Schwarzenegger* bankroll *The Epic Film Music of Miklos Rozsa*. "Major companies are always offering to buy us out," he says with a happy smile. "But we enjoy what we are doing. It's a hobby."

This month the Royal Academy of Music is holding a British and American film music festival, with guest appearances by John Williams, Richard Rodney Bennett, and the inevitable Michael Nyman. "Our students need to learn that this really is a separate art," says the festival's organiser, Bernard Herrmann can sleep peacefully: his legacy is in good hands.

● The festival at the Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1, runs from Sunday to June 23 (0171-873 7343)

“The young are crazy about the soundtracks of Sixties films”



I'm happy again: the soundtrack to *Singin' in the Rain*, with Gene Kelly, is reissued this month

Lechery done with lyric grace

■ OPERA

Linda di Chamounix
Guildhall School

THIS was Donizetti's first commission for Vienna, in 1842. He was chasing a permanent post there and was out to impress — the score is composed with great care, miles from the potboilers that legend has accused him of churning out. He also took Viennese tastes into account with an elaborate sonata-form overture, much alpine local colour, and freedom of form: arias turn into duets or ensembles, run-ti-tum cabalettas are notable by their absence, and the finales are unconventional. It's a perfectly crafted little opera.

The reason it has not joined the repertoire is the perhaps over-naïve libretto, in which Daisy Ashford herself must surely have had a hand. Linda's poor but honest parents send her to Paris with a group of migrant workers to save her from the attentions of the lecherous local aristocrat — a buffo role, this being an opera semi-seria. Once there, she is set up in a "rather sumptuous" apartment by the aristocrat's rich but honest nephew (tenor), complete with costly jewels.

But she preserves her honour (she does not in the source play), a fact that her father, her faithful

travesti-mezzo swain and — frankly — the audience find hard to believe. Bawled out by her father for being a scarlet woman, she goes mad, and regains her sanity just in time for wedding bells and the final curtain

back in Chamounix. But Donizetti believed in it, and so does the GSMD production team: this is one of the best student performances I have seen. The director Stephen Medcalf takes all aspects at face value and makes them work. His production is quite faultless. The designs by Francis O'Connor (sets) and Sarah Blenkinsop (costumes) are ravishing. Clive Timms conducts with understanding and affection, though his band doesn't always disguise the fact that the simpler the music, the harder it is to play well.

Of course not all the voices

are yet fully-fledged, but Sandra Zeltzer's most certainly is: she sang Linda on Thursday with astonishing assurance and technical ease. In the travesti role, Jane Stevenson adds clear and meaningful diction to her plush mezzo. Michael Davis (father) has a voluminous baritone that should

develop spectacularly, and Wynne Evans sang the tenor role with due sensitivity. The buffo lecher must be the hardest assignment for a young singer, but you wouldn't guess it from Philip O'Brien's witty performance. This *Linda* is an exceptional success: tomorrow's repeat performance, with some cast changes, is earnestly recommended.

RODNEY MILNES



Philip O'Brien, Michael Davis and Emer McGilloy take the lead roles in a faultless student production

Rodney Milnes finds the 49th Aldeburgh Festival as reassuring as ever

In a rapidly changing world it is rather reassuring to revisit the Aldeburgh Festival after an interval of 23 years and find that everything is exactly the same. The reed and riverscape around the blessedly unspoiled Snape Maltings complex, of course, and the sheer cosiness of Aldeburgh itself — the late 20th century seems to have latched up its skirts and passed quietly by. And the informed audience, I swear, is just as it was: they come faithfully year after year, they chatter as animatedly as advancing years permit and they even talk to critics. "I shall be very interested to read what you say about that," sounded a bit like a challenge. So here goes.

Margaret Price gamely launched the 49th festival on Saturday morning with a recital of Wolf and Strauss. Eleven in the morning is not the kindest hour at which to expect someone who is no longer a teenager to jack the voice up to its brightest pitch: let us suggest that the piano had been tuned unhelpfully high for the first half, and leave it at that.

But the pearly beauty of

Old friends and new joys

Price's tone, the way she slots words into perfectly moulded musical lines, the subtlety of her interpretations — are among the wonders of the age. Few can have heard Strauss's *Morgen* sung with more inward poise, or Wolf's *Kennst du das Land* with greater sense of longing and despair. Thomas Dewey's accompaniments were as incisive as they were supportive.

New music, lest anyone forget, has always been the main attraction of Aldeburgh, preferably played in the presence of those who have composed it. Both were in evidence at the BBC Symphony Orchestra's well-planned Saturday evening concert. Justifying Hans Werner Henze and Busoni was extremely canny, and not just because of the crucial Italian dimension. The latter's *Nocturne Symphonique* is connected with his opera *Doctor Faustus*, just as

Henze's new *Appassionatamente* is drawn from *Das verirrte Meer*, based on Mishima's novel *The Sailor who Fell from Grace with the Sea*.

Appassionatamente has been aptly described as Henze's *Four Sea Interludes*; there are doubtless unconscious tributes to Britten's *Peter Grimes* and Oriental colouring is minimal; it's an invigorating virtuoso showpiece for full orchestra lasting barely ten minutes, at least as conducted with characteristic ebullience by Oliver Knussen.

It was balanced by Colin Matthews's *M50*, an equally invigorating birthday card in sound for his brother David lasting a mere four minutes, and to balance the Busoni there was Henze's early *Five Neapolitan Songs*, reeking with Mediterranean air and robustly sung by Alan Opie. There have been mutter-

ings about the absence of fully staged opera at Aldeburgh in recent years; in the old days there was a steady supply of new Britten pieces, plus some that he solicited from other composers, but there has been no Bayreuth-style preservation or renewal of the canon. Mutterings were largely silenced by Sunday's superbly cast concert performance of *The Rape of Lucretia*. Once almost as poor a relation as *Owen Wingrave*, this early work is now coming up on the inside: it is as profoundly unsettling as *Budd* or the *Screw*. Jean Rigby has made the title role very much her own, and her body language alone made this much more than just a concert.

Thomas Allen's baleful Tarquinus exerted equal dramatic power, and Anthony Rolfe Johnson caught the Male Chorus's equivocal role in proceedings with disturbing vividness, half reproving, half relishing the central act. Stuart Bedford's measured, perfectly paced conducting set the seal on an unforgettable performance.

RODNEY MILNES

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THE ROYAL OPERA

هكذا من الأصل

Rivalries give semi-finals additional edge



Bevan: cool customer

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THERE was once nothing in domestic cricket to touch the bitterness of rivalry between Lancashire and Yorkshire. Now, though, there is such rancour between Northamptonshire and Warwickshire that the pairings for the Benson and Hedges Cup semi-finals today might have been designed for those who prefer their sport with the spice of confrontation.

There will be a virtual full house at Old Trafford, where Lancashire defend the cup

against a Yorkshire side that has won nothing since they took this competition nine years ago. Early morning queuing is also inevitable at Wantage Road, where only 4,500 can squeeze in for a repeat of the 1995 NatWest Trophy final.

These are two intriguing ties, with the recent supremacy of Lancashire, in one-day cricket, and Warwickshire, in all the game's forms, being challenged by two clubs inclined to promise far more than they deliver.

This year, however, there are reasons for believing in the

supposed underdogs. Yorkshire have developed into an efficient limited-overs side, the toughening of their approach owing much to the influence of Michael Bevan, their Australian, who played the cool, decisive innings when Yorkshire beat their neighbours by two wickets in the quarter-final of the NatWest last August and has been in wonderful form this season. A late decision must be taken regarding Marny Moxon, the former Yorkshire captain, who returned after a thumb injury to play on Sunday.

Lancashire, too, are under-

tain of their side. John Crawley, who has damaged a hamstring, must undergo a fitness test and some thought will presumably be given to extending the experiment of using Mike Watkinson as an opening batsman. He has hit rapid half-centuries in Lancashire's past three Sunday games and is especially well suited to the 15-overs field-setting regulations governing Benson and Hedges cricket.

Warwickshire's resources are now severely stretched, with Nick Knight ruled out by a broken finger. Tim Munton unable to shed the plaster on

his broken arm and Gladstone Small struggling with a hamstring strain. Dermot Reeve, however, is fit to return as captain against Northamptonshire and, doubtless, will be milking the psychological potential of the testiness between these teams.

There is no doubt that the form selection is Northamptonshire, for they have won all 11 of their one-day games this season, ten of them batting second. Curtly Ambrose and John Embury are eager for one more Lord's final before retirement: I believe that they may earn it today.

CRICKET: WARWICKSHIRE MOVE OMINOUSLY INTO FOURTH AS YORKSHIRE DEPOSE KENT AT TOP

Champions' charge accelerates

By PAT GIBSON

TAUNTON (final day of four): Warwickshire (22pts) beat Somerset (5) by 99 runs

IT IS going to take a good side to prevent Warwickshire from winning the county championship for a third successive year. They proved this yesterday with a convincing victory over Somerset, previously unbeaten and with title aspirations of their own, to move within 11 points of the leaders with a match in hand.

Warwickshire had gone into the game without Reeve, their captain, Knight, their England opening batsman, and Munton and Small, two of their most influential bowlers, yet Moles, the acting captain, handled his limited resources so well that they still had it won before the 10 overs of the last hour.

With Knight now suffering from a cracked finger, which makes him doubtful for the Lord's Test, and Munton (broken wrist) and Small (hamstring) still unfit, only Reeve will be back for the Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final at Northampton today and the next championship match against Yorkshire, starting at Headingley on Thursday. Yet none of this will affect Warwickshire's self-belief.

It is the key to their success. They had the worst of a Taunton pitch on which a revitalised Caddick took ten wickets in the match, yet they twice fought their way out of trouble with the bat to leave Somerset needing 321 runs to win with nine wickets in hand at the start of the final day.

Somerset were not without hope, having successfully chased 330 to beat Northamptonshire in their previous



Ostler celebrates as Hayhurst, the Somerset captain, is run out in Warwickshire's victory at Taunton yesterday

match, but they suffered two blows in the first hour and, after that, only a sixth-wicket stand of 96 between Holloway and Lee gave them brief hope.

The first setback came in the third over when Bowler, the kind of batsman that a team can build an innings around, got a fine ball from Pollock which cut away to have him caught behind. The second, even more demoralising, occurred

ten overs later when Batty forgot that the night-watcher's duty is to protect the recognised batsmen and allowed Hayhurst to run himself out.

Batty was leg-before soon afterwards to a ball from Smith, which hit him on the toe, and once Trescott, having driven Giles over the old pavilion, was teased into giving the left-arm spinner a

return catch, it was left to Holloway and Lee to keep the game alive.

Their contrasting styles provided a good test for the Warwickshire spinners, and it was Giles who came out on top. Lee had reached 61 off 99 balls with seven fours when Giles held one back and he chipped a catch to mid-wicket. Next Holloway moved too far across in an attempt to glance

a ball that hit the top of his leg stump and, after Pollock had returned to tempt Turner into hooking him to long leg, the spinners did the rest.

Moles was understandably jubilant. Several times he had called his players into a huddle to remind them of the value of teamwork and this, allied to that all-important self-belief, yielded his first win in three matches as captain.

Discarded Gough recaptures hostility

By SIMON WILDE

MIDDLESBROUGH (final day of four): Yorkshire (23pts) beat Surrey (4) by 221 runs

IT IS amazing how an England team winning a Test match can focus the mind especially when that mind belongs to someone who thought that he should have been in the side.

Darren Gough took one look at the pitch at Acklam Park last week, thought that there was nothing in it for him and proceeded to bowl as though to prove the point. He was not persuaded to change his opinion until Saturday afternoon, when, as it happens, England were well on course to beat India.

By yesterday morning Gough was on fire, and any faint hopes that Surrey harboured of escaping defeat were quickly dispelled. Resuming at 232 for five, they were all out in just over an hour for 274 and, in delivering 11 fast, hostile and downright devilish overs off the reel, it was Gough who brushed them aside with his best return for more than a year.

Gough took four of the five remaining wickets to complete a return of five for 36 from 24 overs, during which his line was immaculate and he displayed full control of his celebrated, if sometimes elusive, yorker. It was enough to put paid to Brown and Ben Hollis, while Julian and Pearson, his other victims, helplessly prodded the ball to close catchers.

On other recent days Gough might have been disheartened to see a catch go down off his fourth ball, but Stemp's error at third slip that reprieved Julian only served up to him Brown, who was hungry for his first big championship score of the season. Two balls later Brown was out without addition to his overnight 31 and, with their last specialist batsman gone, Surrey were left no plausible means of escape.

One good performance will not enable Gough to walk back into the England side, but he has an excellent opportunity to create further favourable headlines for himself later this week when Yorkshire, who moved top of the championship table with this win, meet Warwickshire, the champions.

That match is at Headingley, where Gough took a career-best seven for 28 against Lancashire in May 1995, since when he had done nothing to approach such destruction until yesterday, having experienced a difficult year, with fitness and rhythm constant worries.

The last Surrey wicket fell to Vaughan, Kersey being leg-before attempting to sweep. Vaughan looks and is youthful enough to remember reading boys' adventure stories and in this match he lived out one: two catches, six wickets and 226 runs.

Pollard prolongs search

By ALAN LEE

TRENT BRIDGE (final day of four): Nottinghamshire (8pts) drew with Northamptonshire (10)

THIS time last year Northamptonshire had sprinted clear in the county championship, five wins to their credit and the title in their sights at last. It seems a more remote prospect this summer, as they wait with diminishing patience for a first victory that, yesterday, was denied them primarily by the weather.

Trent Bridge has been a batsman's haven since Frank Dalling succeeded Ron Allsopp in charge of the groundsmen's hut after 25 years as the sorcerer's apprentice. Time is of the essence in bowling a side out twice here, and time was the commodity of which Northamptonshire were decisively short after 100 minutes were lost to steady drizzle at the start of the day.

In the event, they took only four wickets as Nottinghamshire, following on for the second successive match, avoided defeat as comfortably as they had done against Durham last week. However, there were a few tremors as the ball began to turn in the final session and Rob Bailey may rue his delay in employing the spin bowlers, who were always his likeliest match-winners.

Four seamers had shared 20 overs before Bailey summoned John Embury, the club coach, to demonstrate that, while he may be 43, thinning on top and thickening down below, he is still the best off break bowler in England. His action remains classical, his control of flight and line exemplary and, even on a grudging surface, he demanded constant attention.

Tim Robinson was his first victim, caught at short leg as

he stretched forward, and the next ball, the first of a new over from Andy Roberts, saw Paul Pollard dropped by Ambrose at slip. Ambrose was safe enough in pouching Archer off Embury, who finally removed the obdurate Pollard shortly after tea.

Pollard has been accused of selling his wicket too cheaply and his determination to reform is obvious. He batted through 125 overs for 98 runs in this match, priceless vigilance for his side, if a shade difficult to watch.

Roberts' leg spin claimed the final wicket, Johnson being bamboozled on the back foot, but Walker and Cairns survived without anxiety on a pitch still favouring the batsmen. The third Test against India is to be staged here next month and nobody should worry that a fourth-day ticket might be as useless as it was at Edgbaston.

Stubborn Lewis holds Lancashire at bay

By IVO TENNANT

CHELMSFORD (final day of four): Essex (9pts) drew with Lancashire (9)

AFTER making more than 500 runs in their first innings, Essex came markedly close to being beaten yesterday. They did not bat well. That they managed to gain a draw was on account of Jonathan Lewis making his second half-century of what was his first championship match of the season. More important, he stayed at the wicket for 46 overs.

Lancashire, who had a first-innings lead of 177, took the first six Essex wickets for 204, and Iltis had retired hurt with a hand injury. Gough, Grayson and Law, the century-makers of the first day, had gone to Watkinson and Keedy, the spinners, who bowled with guile on a pitch that gave them little help. Lewis, though, remained until stumps were drawn with five overs left, Essex 52 runs to the good.

It is six years since Lewis made a century on his first-class debut, giving Essex cause to believe that they had

discovered another young batsman of considerable promise. It was an innings, alas, that was proved to be illusory. Although he was given opportunities ahead of the likes of Nick Knight, the big scores did not come about. He continued to play within his limitations, which were greater than originally believed.

Now, even with Hussain back, Lewis will be hopeful of being included in his county's next match. His 54 runs were assiduously collected, the one chance that he gave not offered until the penultimate over. His was a cussed innings.

Lancashire, considering that their minds must have been on their Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final today, to say nothing of a long drive last night, did well to give themselves any hope of victory. There was little in this pitch for any bowler over the four days. Their total of 686, of which Austin and Keedy contributed 91 in a lively stand before lunch for the last wicket, was the third highest in the county's history.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Essex v Lancashire
CHELMSFORD (final day of four): Essex (9pts) drew with Lancashire (9)
ESSEX: First Innings 509 (S G Law 144, A P Grayson 129, R Keedy 101, J B Lewis 69, D Ambrose 5 for 119).
Second Innings
G A Gough b Watkinson 21
D P Robinson c Speak b Watkinson 19
A P Grayson b Keedy 27
S G Law b Keedy 31
J B Lewis not out 54
R J Pollard c Hegg b Chappell 22
A P Keedy not out 12
Extras (b 5, nb 4) 9
Total (6 wickets) 259
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-46, 2-104, 3-106, 4-108, 5-189, 6-204.
BOWLING: Chappell 9-32-1, EwORTHY 9-38-0, Austin 5-39-0, Watkinson 28-41-2, Keedy 25-15-5, Speak 1-9-0.

11-6-15-0, Capel 11-3-17-0, Penbury 8-13-0, Embury 26-7-43-3, Roberts 24-8-81-1, Bailey 5-3-5-0
Umpires: J C Balderson and NT Paves

Somerset v Warwickshire
TAUNTON (final day of four): Warwickshire (22pts) beat Somerset (5) by 99 runs
WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 256 (T L Penney 77, A R Caddick 5 for 79).
Second Innings: 225 (A J Miles 75, DP Ostler 66, T L Penney 52, A R Caddick 5 for 85).
SOMERSET: First Innings 242 (S Lee 65).
Second Innings
M N Lathwell c Moles b Pollock 1
P D Bowler c Penney b Pollock 1
J D Bailey not out 21
A N Hayhurst not out 17
A N Hayhurst c and b Gales 20
P C L Holloway c Gales 2
S Lee c Smith b Gales 61
R J Turner c Gales b Pollock 14
A R Caddick not out 13
A R Caddick c and b Smith 13
A R Caddick c Penney b Gales 0
Extras (b 5, lb 13, w 1, nb 18) 39
Total 225
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-32, 3-34, 4-81, 5-78, 6-175, 7-211, 8-215, 9-226.
BOWLING: Pollock 22-8-27-3, Brown 9-15-0, Smith 28-10-57-2, Welch 8-1-31, G. Allen 5-12-0, Gales 22-10-63-4.
Umpires: R Allen and R Palmer.

Sussex v Durham
HOVE (final day of four): Sussex (24pts) beat Durham (1) by an innings and 67 runs
SUSSEX: First Innings 552 for 8 dec (K Greenfield 124 not out, A P Wells 113, C A J Athey 102, V C Drakes 89).
DURHAM: First Innings 158 (D K Salisbury 6 for 18).
Second Innings
S L Campbell not out 87
M A Robinson c and b Law 11
J E Mores not out 3
D A Stanger not out 10
P D Collingwood c Moles b Law 5

Yorkshire v Surrey
MIDDLESBROUGH (final day of four): Yorkshire (23pts) beat Surrey (4) by 221 runs
YORKSHIRE: First Innings 305 (M P Vaughan 138, B C Hollis 4 for 74).
SURREY: First Innings 197 (D J Bicknell 52, M P Vaughan 4 for 82, R D Stamp 4 for 44).
Second Innings
D J Bicknell c and b Vaughan 20
M A Boucher c Byles b Silverwood 26
A J Hollis c Byles b Silverwood 26
D J Bicknell c Byles b Silverwood 31
D M Ward c Byles b Gough 31
B P Julian c Byles b Gough 20
T G Kersey not out 10
B C Hollis not out 8
R M Pearson c Vaughan b Gough 2
J E Benjamin not out 2
Extras (b 1, nb 10) 11
Total 274
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-103, 3-103, 4-202, 5-216, 6-223, 7-254, 8-258, 9-266.
BOWLING: Gough 24-3-36-5, Hartley 12-3-34-2, Vaughan 17-2-39-2, Stemp 27-7-80-0, Byles 12-3-34-1, McGinn 3-2-5-0.
Umpires: B Leadbeater and B Duckleson.

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EURO 96

THE COMPLETE GUIDE

GROUP A

ENGLAND

DAY OFF

CAUTIONS: Adams, G Neville.

GROUP B

SPAIN

There is unrest in the Spanish camp, but it is nothing Javier Clemente, the coach, cannot handle. Clemente is known for his regimented approach and strict adherence to discipline. Imagine his displeasure, then, when José Luis Camarero made waves by discussing his present unhappiness with Clemente. Camarero is a double winner with Atlético Madrid, but he is so unsettled that he wants a transfer. He cites family reasons and has been moaning to anyone that will listen: "I must leave the club." Italy is the favoured destination. Clemente was less than impressed. "I have had dozens of calls from journalists on this matter and so I want to see the player to tell him to forget it. He is here in the interests of the national team. If he doesn't understand that he won't play." Surprisingly, Camarero has since adopted a monkish silence on the subject. Strange that.

CAUTIONS: Camarero, Sergi, Amor, Abetardo.

DISMISSALS: Pizzi.

GROUP C

GERMANY

The only team to win at the weekend had a day of "regeneration" yesterday, doing very little, apart from baths and massages and a cake to mark Thomas Hässler's 75th appearance for Germany against the Czech Republic. The only clouds concerned the defence, with the fear that the loss of Kohler could be even more damaging if the plethora of yellow cards continues. Babbal, his replacement, was one of Germany's six bookings. Kohler caught the 6.30am flight back to Munich accompanied by Professor Müller-Wollast, the orthopaedic specialist. One problem was solved yesterday. Three days after refusing to train at Middlesbrough, Germany agreed to return there for two open sessions tomorrow and Thursday. Anyone hoping to see the German secrets, however, will be disappointed — volleyball and hand tennis are on the agenda for sessions more geared to public relations.

CAUTIONS: Reuter, Hässler, Müller, Kuntz, Babbal, Ziege.

GROUP D

DENMARK

There was no doubt about which team was the baggie with the result of Sunday's 1-1 draw at Hillsborough. The Portuguese slunk away as the Danish players filled around, eyes gleaming, pulses racing. "We lost the second half but won it and then we won the second half but lost it," was Tomas Helveg's philosophical summation of how Brian Laudrup put Denmark ahead against the run of play and how the Portuguese equalised when Portugal became more mobile and threatening. Bizarrely, Richard Møller Nielsen is rarely credited with any tactical nous, even after Denmark won the tournament four years ago, and his role was largely overlooked. But, undeterred, he was at it again on Sunday, bringing in the tall, strong Larsen into midfield to spoil Portuguese fitness. The efforts exhausted the team but they have a week to recover before facing Croatia. Schmeichel's tip for the tournament.

CAUTIONS: Riegsager, Helveg.

SWITZERLAND

Though Switzerland's deserved draw at Wembley three days ago might not have pleased too many Englishmen, Peter Bonetti, the former Chelsea goalkeeper, could claim to be an honorable exception. Bonetti's father, Joe, was born in Ticino, the small, Italian-speaking region of Switzerland. Peter spent many of his formative years on holiday halfway up a mountain in the village of Chironico. They were also slugging in Soho on Saturday night, at London's only Swiss restaurant, Saint Moritz. It is the cosy eatery of Armin Loetscher, owner for 30 years, and is as popular with football supporters as it is with superstars. Peter Gabriel has been known to pop in for a fondue. Deep Purple have gazed at the six television sets, simultaneously, and AC/DC have perched long into the evening. Could be another heavy session if Holland are beaten on Thursday.

CAUTIONS: Vogel, Quentin, Grassi, Vega.

BULGARIA

There is a feeling amongst those in the know that the Bulgarians have the technique and tactical cunning to win this championship, but not the legs. Not so, says Jordan Letchkov, one of the younger members of the squad, despite his shining past. Letchkov believes that the travelling band of talented Bulgars have one last big championship in them and confidently predicted a final appearance after a promising opening display against Spain. "We are getting that feeling again, one of togetherness, and achievement," he said. "We will get better and better and stronger and stronger as the tournament progresses and we will be at our best in the final." Letchkov's quote Bulgaria at 25-1 for the tournament, an untypically generous price given the pedigree of the team. They might just be a worth a bob or two.

CAUTIONS: Stolev, Kicelchev, Tzvetanov.

DISMISSALS: Hubchev.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Only now it is sinking in to the Czechs just what the phrase "Group of Death" really means. Their 2-0 defeat by Germany has hit the camp hard. They left Old Trafford in haste, returned to their hotel in Preston and stayed up until the small hours watching every terrible second of their opening Euro 96 fixture. There will not be wholesale changes for their next match against Italy on Friday but Patrik Berger, whose omission from the starting line-up was a surprise, will be named for the game at Anfield having looked more impressive than most when he came on as a substitute. Zusan Uhrman, the coach, might have been expected to have the players working out and eating plenty of protein yesterday. "Germany were by far the fitter and stronger," he said — but no, the Czechs were all napping, so little sleep did they have after a night of video nasties.

CAUTIONS: Kadlec, Drulak, Bejbl, Necivod.

PORTUGAL

Some teams have two days off after a 1-1 draw, some have a few hours. Less than totally happy with their draw against Denmark, Portugal's players had a gentle morning. Then, their stay in South Yorkshire over, they decamped for Derby yesterday afternoon, where they will be based for their two remaining games at the City Ground, Nottingham. "For the rest of the day, they are completely free, they can even leave the hotel if they like," their press officer said. The golfers among them will not want to. Breda's Priory has its own course. "Some play golf, some tennis, some table tennis," Wilson said. What they don't do is head off for a lager or three. The loss of two points, however, will not affect their approach. "What you saw out there was the Portuguese philosophy of football, and you can be sure we will not be changing it now," Antonio Oliveira, the coach, said.

CAUTIONS: Oceano, Sa Pinto, João Pinto, Paulinho Santos, Paulo Sousa.

HOLLAND

Holland's media guide is a splendidly compiled effort, a brief yet concise *Who's Who* of the Dutch squad. However, it has either experienced a few hiccups in the translation or Guus Hiddink's players really are a rather strange lot. How else do you explain the fact that Winston Bogarde, nicknamed "Bogey" by his team-mates, "plays with a lot of gold at his hands"? Aron Winter, the Lazio midfielder player, "spends a lot of time in his Porsche"; Peter Hoekstra, of Ajax, "can juggle with a tennis ball"; and Ed de Goey, the goalkeeper, has his own chant "Say ooh, ooh, Ed de Goey". Eric Cantona eat your heart out. Spere a thought, though, for poor Gaston Taument, the Feyenoord winger, who was once a "dress-man" and, apparently, is also "a proud father of a twin". Sadly, it does not divulge how this extraordinary phenomenon occurred.

CAUTIONS: Witschge, Taument.

ROMANIA

Temporarily domiciled between Darlington and Newton Aycliffe, Romania are much taken with the former town. "The players love it," a squad spokesman said. "Some have said they'd like to live here." Hagl and Co are not the only ones. Romanian journalists seem similarly smitten by the Quaker town. One was even spotted postcard hunting in the general store at Barton, a village six miles south of Darlington yesterday. There is certainly healthy Romanian media presence because that country's December 1989 revolution heralded an information boom. Romania now houses 145 radio stations and 82 television stations, in addition to 967 newspapers and more than 200 magazines. Newcastle supporters cannot read enough about their team, but were looking forward to watching Florin Raducioiu last night. He was one of 21 fit players, the unlucky man being Brescia's Ovidiu Sabau who has pulled a hamstring.

ITALY

The irony was not lost on Arrigo Sacchi, the Italian coach. The conference organiser very nearly became apologetic as he instructed the camera crew at yesterday's team announcement to move either to the left or to the right, but to stay away from the middle of the lecture hall. It was like watching a poor manager attempting to organise an even poorer team. Sacchi laughed and imitated the circus act. It was no joke to the camera crews, however, and blasphemous insults were uttered from behind throughout. The plot thickened, meanwhile, after Vielli was left behind. Although Sacchi said he still feels very close to Chelsea's new striker and respects him as an athlete, "one passage is missing" came the translated explanation. We may be a united Europe, but there is much that still divides us.

TURKEY

No fears of nocturnal goings-on in the Turkey squad, with most of the players of strict Muslim faith. "A lot of them don't touch drink, for religious reasons, though some will have a beer or a drop of white wine after a game," a regular Turkey camp follower said. "Some of them fast during Ramadan, but the majority are not too bothered about it. They like their food." Fatih Terim, the Turkey coach, is also a stickler for discipline. However, he has never had to appeal to his players to accept collective responsibility for any high links. "They all have to do national service and it's a good thing," the insider said. "It shapes their lives." So, if everything ends in tears after three games, presumably nobody will worry about flying the Turks home.

SCOTLAND

It is not often that the Scottish Football Association is identified with the cause of the common man, but on Sunday it found itself fighting on behalf of supporters against unfeeling officialdom. As so often in these matters, the struggle was unavailing. The organisers of Euro 96 declined to throw open the doors of Villa Park so that Scotland's followers might attend the training session. The team and its 9,500 admirers were only united yesterday for the match with Holland. Scotland's allocation had not sold out until late last week, but enthusiasm, if delayed, was still heartfelt. Before the game, a brisk trade was in progress with supporters eagerly buying T-shirts bearing the blubbery image of Paul Gascoigne, from 1990, and the legend "I'd be crying too if I was English". It is generally thought best to sport such garments before Scotland have had the chance to suffer travails of their own.

CAUTIONS: Boyd, Gallacher.

FRANCE

While the English squad's only form of protest seems to be when the bar closes, France are a little more sensitive. They have taken time out from the championship to promote political and cultural issues. First it was backing for the campaign against French nuclear testing in the Pacific; now it is support for AIDS charities. In training, the French players wear T-shirts with the legend "Solidarity Sides" emblazoned on the front. It is an AIDS charity run by Antoine De Caunes, that smooth presenter who seems to pop up late at night on Channel 4 all the time. The French have even filmed a television advert for the station TFI, to promote awareness amongst young people about the virus. Maybe the England squad should take a leaf out of the French book and promote something similar. Now what would be an appropriate cause? Alcohol awareness maybe?

RUSSIA

The Iron Curtain stayed firmly down across Lancashire yesterday, making its first appearance at Anfield as well as its more familiar setting around Russia's hotel. Journalists from Italy, Spain and France, as well as England and Russia, turned up to the Russian headquarters outside Wigan in the morning expecting a press conference, but were turned away. The players were kept in the hotel until all the journalists had left. Later, the team trained behind closed doors at Anfield in preparation for this afternoon's match with Italy. "There is no violation of UEFA instructions," Dr Viacheslav Koloskov, the president of the Russian Football Association, said. "We were instructed that prior to the first match there would be one press conference and one open training session. We had them on Friday. So no one will be available. You will know the team line up one hour before the match and no more."

CROATIA

Croatia are now cosily hidden away on the banks of Rutland Water, Leicestershire, but were given a good luck message on their departure from Co. Monaghan, their previous base. It came from Carrickmacross Rovers AFC and is magnificently Irish. "We can identify with you because you have come amongst us, walked where we walk and breathed the air we breathe," it read. "We can identify with you, small nation to small nation, small but unique. Football has been for us in Ireland a liberating influence: an opportunity to establish an identity to proclaim our essential difference through playing the beautiful game... this support we offer you, a fledgling nation but an ancient and indomitable people. "You will not be home in Zagreb or Split to hear the pulse of your own people. Therefore, let these words speak for them. Make Your Mark."

Words: Oliver Holt, Kevin McCarr, Peter Ball, Russell Kempson, Alyson Rudd, David Maddock, Louise Taylor

MATCH-BY-MATCH GUIDE

GROUP A		GROUP B		GROUP C		GROUP D	
England 1 Switzerland 1 Shearer (23) Turkylmaz (83 pen) (at Wembley, attendance 76,567)		Spain 1 Bulgaria 1 Alfonso (73) Stolev (65 pen) (at Elland Road, attendance 26,006)		Germany 2 Czech Republic 0 Ziege (25) Möller (31) (at Old Trafford, attendance 37,300)		Denmark 1 Portugal 1 B Laudrup (21) Sa Pinto (52) (at Hillsborough, attendance 34,993)	
Holland 0 Scotland 0 (at Villa Park)		Romania v France Not including last night's match at St James' Park		Today Italy v Russia (Anfield, 4.30) BBC1		Today Turkey v Croatia (City Ground, 7.30) ITV	
Thur June 13 Switzerland v Holland (Villa Park, 7.30) BBC1		Thur June 13 Bulgaria v Romania (St James' Park, 4.30) ITV		Fri June 14 Czech Republic v Italy (Anfield, 7.30) ITV		Fri June 14 Portugal v Turkey (City Ground, 4.30) BBC1	
Sat June 15 England v Scotland (Wembley, 3.0) BBC1		Sat June 15 France v Spain (Elland Road, 6.0) ITV		Sun June 16 Russia v Germany (Old Trafford, 3.0) ITV		Sun June 16 Croatia v Denmark (Hillsborough, 6.0) BBC1	
Tues June 18 Scotland v Switzerland (Villa Park, 7.30)		Tues June 18 France v Bulgaria (St James' Park, 4.30)		Wed June 19 Italy v Germany (Old Trafford, 7.30)		Wed June 19 Croatia v Portugal (City Ground, 4.30)	
Tues June 18 England v Holland (Wembley, 7.30)		Tues June 18 Romania v Spain (Elland Road, 4.30)		Wed June 19 Russia v Czech Republic (Anfield, 7.30)		Wed June 19 Turkey v Denmark (Hillsborough, 4.30)	
P W D L F A Pts		P W D L F A Pts		P W D L F A Pts		P W D L F A Pts	
England 1 0 1 0 1 1 1		Spain 1 0 1 0 1 1 1		Germany 1 1 0 0 2 0 3		Denmark 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	
Switzerland 1 0 1 0 1 1 1		Bulgaria 1 0 1 0 1 1 1		Czech Rep 1 0 0 1 0 2 0		Portugal 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	
Holland 1 0 0 0 0 0 1		Romania 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		Italy 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		Turkey 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	
Scotland 1 0 0 0 0 0 1		France 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		Russia 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		Croatia 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	

QUARTER-FINALS

Sat June 22 Winners Group B v Runners-up Group A (Anfield, 6.30) Sat June 22 Runners-up Group B v Winners Group A (Wembley, 3.0)
Sun June 23 Winners Group C v Runners-up Group D (Old Trafford, 3.0) Sun June 23 Runners-up Group C v Winners Group D (Villa Park, 6.30)

SEMI-FINALS

Wed June 26 Villa Park winners v Anfield winners (Old Trafford, 4.0) BBC1
Wed June 26 Wembley winners v Old Trafford winners (Wembley, 7.30) BBC1

FINAL

Sun June 30 Wembley (7.0) BBC1/ITV

PREVIOUS WINNERS
1960 USSR
1964 Spain
1968 Italy
1972 West Germany
1976 Czechoslovakia
1980 West Germany
1984 France
1988 Holland
1992 Denmark

PREVIOUS LOSERS
1960 Yugoslavia
1964 USSR
1968 Yugoslavia
1972 USSR
1976 West Germany
1980 Belgium
1984 Russia
1988 USSR
1992 Czech Republic

LATEST BETTING
11-4: Germany
5-1: Italy
11-5: Holland
6-1: France
8-1: England
10-1: Spain
10-1: Portugal
12-1: Croatia

LATEST BETTING
18-1: Russia
25-1: Bulgaria
25-1: Romania
25-1: Denmark
50-1: Switzerland
80-1: Scotland
100-1: Turkey
150-1: Czech Republic

FOUL PLAY

Cautions 34 Dismissals 2

هكذا من الأصل

Croatia supporters travel in spirit of independence

Barely a day to go to kick-off and panic had finally hit the volunteers at the Fanswelcome office in Nottingham's main square. The Turkish folk group had rung to say that they were stuck on the motorway and would be half an hour late. Worse, the pipe band and six-piece orchestra were on the same bus. The Turkish vice-consul was not amused. His Ambassador was due any minute to open the city's Turkish culture day.

Other browns were furrowed, too. Where were all the Croats? According to disparate sources, the official packages had been too expensive for most of them, so a convoy of independently chartered coaches would be sweeping into town before sundown, a mere 24 hours before the country's opening match, against Turkey. They have set off from Croatia and are driving through Austria and Germany picking up passengers

on the way," Paul Johns, the head of Fanswelcome, the organisation set up to help supporters in Euro 96, said, "but we have no idea when they will be here." Nor any idea whether they would need tickets.

Only 2,600 of the Croatian ticket allocation had been sold for the three group matches, but, then again, Wembley expected a mere 200 Croats for the recent match and 2,000 turned up. Either way, they had to buy their tickets before 6pm yesterday because no tickets are on sale today. By last night, estimates suggested a crowd of 25,000.

Huddled underneath a parasol in the square, Vera Markos was still longing to put her degree in Serbo-Croat to good use. So far she had directed a few Danes to the shopping centre and talked to two Croats, who had both spoken immaculate English, and an Australian Croat from Melbourne.



Andrew Longmore on the strange shortage of football followers and the excess of hospitality in a city awaiting a culture clash

"I've heard there's a Croat selling T-shirts at the station," she said. "You might try there."

In the accommodation bureau, Linda Brentnall had a 600-bed camp-site and two leisure centre floors available for the late influx. By yesterday morning only 12 places had been taken. Unfortunately, the Turkish entrepreneur who had hired a 300-seat aeroplane had suffered a heart attack last week and the package had been cancelled. Still, she was ready and waiting for action. "It's quite exciting," she said.

Potentially, the Catholic Croats against the Muslims of Turkey at the City Ground tonight could be one of the more explosive fixtures

in the championship. The Croats were subjected to Austro-Hungarian rule when not under the yoke of the Ottoman Turks, but any lingering resentment from the Bosnian conflict has been subsumed, temporarily at least, in the delight of actually competing. "Religion? You ask about something I cannot answer," Paul Jen, the secretary of the Croatian Democratic Union in the United Kingdom, said. "It is the first major tournament for our new country, the first time we can sing our hearts out for our country, not for Yugoslavia. It is a symbol of our independence. That is what is important."

Back in the Fanswelcome of-

fices, the news was getting worse. The Turkish folk group had been spotted at junction 20 on the M1, but Ozdem Sanberk, the Turkish Ambassador, had already arrived. No, he said, there was no animosity between the two countries. On the contrary, the relationships had been strengthened through the civil war... but he wanted to talk about the spirit of Robin Hood. "We are both Mediterranean peoples, passionate, full of moods, but we also have a strong sense of sharing," he said. "Robin Hood is the symbol of Nottingham and of all people fighting for justice. Maybe we have sympathy with that."

the journey to Nottingham was also a matter of speculation. Many of the original allocation of 11,000 tickets had been returned and visas had not been freely granted in Istanbul for fear of permanent defection. The Nottingham police had been told that most Turks would come over to London and travel up by coach on the day. "We have had no intelligence reports about the likelihood of a trouble," a police spokesman said. "You know as well as I do, these things can flare up on the night."

Both teams have been at pains to praise the locals for their hospitality. The Turkish vice-consul made a point of saying that he had been in the city five days longer than his opposite number, to sort out problems like lost passports rather than anticipate any violence, but even the Turkish officials accepted that the neutrals would side with the red-and-white checks of the Croats, whose independence has

been won at such cost. "We do not mind," the Ambassador said. "If we were not playing against them, we would feel the same."

The atmosphere at the City Ground tonight will be considerably hotter than on a normal FA Carling Premiership Saturday, given the Turks' passion for fire-crackers and the Croats' love of a song "Viva Croatia" will ring out loud and clear, accompanied by a fluttering of red and white flags. "It is a song about the beauty of Croatia and the Adriatic, about the spirit of its people and about trying to win," Jen said. "Everything that is in touch with Croatian feelings."

By early afternoon the Turkish folk group had appeared and were in full swing, watched by a small crowd of bemused locals enjoying a brief outbreak of sunshine. There was still no sign of the travelling Croats, nor of the lone trader selling Croatian T-shirts.

Denmark know their challenge is in safe hands

By ALYSON RUDD

PETER SCHMEICHEL reached up and, with devastating hand-eye co-ordination, unplugged the loudspeaker above him that had interrupted his train of thought. He was explaining how Denmark had somehow held a Portugal side sleeping with skill and ambition without actually mentioning his contribution — which was difficult, a little like explaining how a car starts and stops without mentioning the ignition or the brakes.

On Sunday evening, Schmeichel showed that he is the reason that Denmark can qualify from Group D. Asked what he thought of the Manchester United's goalkeeper's performance, Sa Pinto, the Portugal goalscorer, replied glumly: "Good. Very good."

The Portuguese tried to sound content with the draw, but they were disappointed. They wasted some opportunities, but it was Schmeichel who denied them victory.

We have seen it all before, of course. Schmeichel rises to big occasions and probably put in his best club performance of the season when United visit-



ed Newcastle in the closing stages of the race for the FA Carling Premiership.

On Sunday evening, he gave his full repertoire. There were huge leaps into the air to collect dangerous corner kicks, there was intelligent distribution, there were those moments when somehow he makes himself seem even bigger to block all view of goal for an incoming striker and there was impeccable timing.

And, of course, shouting. "We know to let it in one ear and out the other," Rieper, the Denmark central defender, said. Somehow, Rieper failed to hear any call in the dying seconds of the match and both he and Schmeichel tried to

clear the same cross. They collided, but Tavares, on as a second-half substitute, failed to guide the loose ball into the net. That single blunder did not affect Schmeichel's standing as man of the match.

Vitor Bala, the Portugal goalkeeper, is widely considered to be the world's second-best custodian after Schmeichel, but, on Sunday, there was no comparison.

Schmeichel was genuinely pleased with the result. "It is very important to get a point just to get you into the tournament," he said. That is why he refused to criticise England's performance against Switzerland. "In my book, they [England] didn't struggle," he said. "They played the game as I would have played the game. They were just very unlucky to concede a goal when they did."

Schmeichel doubts whether any manager in the tournament would quibble with wrestling a point from the opening match. "I think it is the attitude of the managers and the players that, if you have gone 1-0 up, you protect that and, if you concede a goal, then you have got one point so you are still very much in the tournament," he said.

This is very much a defensive view, but it does not stop Schmeichel from appreciating the attacking talents of the opposition. "I would love to see the Croatia v Portugal game because that is going to be terrific," he said.

Any England supporter ruefully wishing that people could look forward to this nation's fixtures with such relish can take heart. "England are a fantastic team, an experienced team with some good, young players," Schmeichel said.

They have not played a competitive game for two years and to get away with one point is a very good result because I know, as a player, how you feel. The things surrounding the games, you think about them. The opening ceremony, you think about that. They'll come through."



Ravanello, right, the Italy forward left out of the team to face Russia today, gets to grips with Maldini in training

Sacchi guilty of name-dropping

By ALYSON RUDD

CHAOS reigned yesterday as Arrigo Sacchi, the Italy coach, announced the team that will line up against Russia at Anfield in a Group C encounter this afternoon. Sacchi proclaimed himself blessed with an abundantly talented squad, but the flip side of that blessing is that he always seems to be omitting a big name.

The surprise yesterday was that Sacchi preferred Zola and Casiraghi in attack to Chiesa and Ravanello. Convinced that the silver-haired Juventus forward and the Sampdoria prodigy had been dropped because they do not like each other, the Italian media fell upon Ravanello as he emerged

from the team's training ground at Alsager, near Crewe. He was angry and denied the rumours. Sacchi referred to "several incidents" that have affected Ravanello's overall form. When pressed, he said that Ravanello had a tendon injury.

Zola was always likely to be first choice, but Casiraghi said that he was surprised at being selected. "Casiraghi is on very, very high form: a very good standard," Sacchi said. Sacchi is probably under more pressure than Terry Venables, the England coach, but he looked far from stressed. Sprightly and beaming almost constantly, Sacchi's secret appears to be his fatalistic approach.

"Having lost a World Cup final on penalties, which has

not happened to any other manager, I have come to the conclusion that it's OK, it's the way it had to end," he said yesterday.

The main threat that Russia pose to the Italians is their speed. According to Peruzzi, the Italy goalkeeper, Italy will rely heavily on a well-rehearsed offside tactic to prevent the likes of Kanchelskis, the Everton forward, reaching the penalty area. In their final warm-up game, against the Stoke City under-18 team, Italy concentrated intensely on their offside play and scored only twice. It is no accident that the team in the tournament that has the fewest goals, man for man, is Italy.

While maintaining that the team was not yet at its peak,

Sacchi refused to see any parallels with his side's opening game in the World Cup two years ago, when they lost to Ireland, saying that the team were now in better physical condition, their knowledge of the game had improved, and that team spirit was stronger.

Sacchi was impressed by the performance of Germany against the Czech Republic, who were made to look a shadow of the side that clinched qualification. Germany, he said, were "extraordinary". England's opening game, on the other hand, he had not even seen.

ITALY (4-4-2): A Peruzzi (Juventus) — R. Maldini (Milan), A. Costacurta (AC Milan), A. Di Biase (Lazio), D. Berti (AC Milan) — R. B. Zola (Parma), P. Casiraghi (Lazio)

Organisers unworried by missing supporters

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

ORGANISERS of the European championship yesterday dismissed suggestions that empty seats are threatening the success of the tournament. Old Trafford was well short of its 55,300 capacity on Sunday, with a crowd of 37,300 watching Germany's 2-0 win over the Czech Republic in Group C. Only 24,006 saw the 1-1 draw between Spain and Bulgaria in Group B at Elland Road — a stadium that has a capacity of 39,000.

Glen Kirton, the tournament director, insisted that ticket sales have outstripped original predictions and that the attendances in Manchester and Leeds were not unexpected. "We have sold more than 90 per cent of the 1.4 million tickets available for the tournament as a whole — 20 per cent more than our original sales projection," he said.

"Nine games are sold out and a further four are near sell-outs. We expect that the limited number of tickets still remaining will be snapped up quickly as the tournament progresses and public interest builds. We are delighted that the opening match was a sell-out and that the Denmark v Portugal game at Hillsborough attracted nearly 35,000 spectators."

"Lower attendances for the other two matches played on Sunday reflect the fact that neither the Czech Republic nor Bulgaria took up their original ticket allocation of 7,000 per group match."

About 130,000 tickets are available for the rest of the tournament and they can be bought via the Euro 96 hotline 099 099 1996 — up until five days before a match, or direct from the seven regional venues outside London the day before kick-off.

Tickets will also be made available at city-centre venues on match days, security permitting. A thousand supporters took up that option for the Elland Road fixture.

A limited number of places are still remaining for the match between Italy and the Czech Republic at Anfield on Friday.



Schmeichel is without a rival as the world's best goalkeeper

Uefa tell referees to carry on booking

By PETER BALL

IN SPITE of a sea of 30 yellow cards in the first four matches, the message from Uefa to the referees was quite unequivocal yesterday: keep on booking. Six of the eight teams involved were fined as the governing body of European football responded to the criticism by supporting its officials.

Referees shall continue to be firm in carrying out their duty," Lennart Johansson, the Uefa president, said in a message to all 16 competing teams. That effectively shut the door on hopes that the heavy-handedness of some of the refereeing would be lightened.

The ratio of bookings to matches at the moment is 7.5 per game. The 1994 World Cup, the first tournament in which the new directions to referees came into effect, had an average of 4.5. That represents a staggering increase, especially as the tackle target along with the "professional foul", has hardly been seen.

It increases fears that by the quarter-finals, defenders will hardly feel able to make a tackle, or squads will be decimated by suspensions. Uefa, though, are unrepentant.

Instead, Johansson insisted

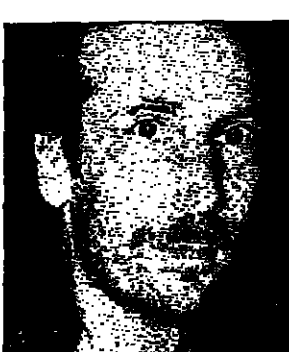
that the referees would continue with a firm line in an appeal to the competing teams. "Players should not only content themselves with wearing the fair play logo, but are expected to display fair play in their conduct," Johansson wrote.

Johansson's words were backed by actions. The Uefa disciplinary committee suspended Petar Hubchev, the Bulgaria defender, and Pizzi, of Spain, the players sent off on Sunday, for one match, as well as fining all six countries who attracted four or more bookings.

The heaviest penalty was levied on Germany, who were fined Sfr 8,000 (about £4,000) for six bookings: Spain were fined Sfr 7,000 for four bookings and a sending off, the Czechs, and Bulgarians, Czechs, and Portuguese were fined Sfr 5,000 each. Switzerland escaped with the minimum fine of Sfr 4,000, leaving England and Denmark unblemished so far. The discrepancies, however, owed something to inconsistent refereeing, with David Elleray handling Germany's game with the Czech Republic with much less sympathy than Manuel Diaz Vega, of Spain, had shown at Wembley the previous day.

Self-destruct reflex goes awry

SIMON BARNES



at Villa Park

playing a completely different game, one with only tenuous similarity to their own.

It was a strange contest, the Dutch so swift, so sleek, so dangerous. It was like the wonderfully dreadful old movies you see when aliens invade some peaceful hick town in the great Midwest.

Yet the role of throwbacks suits the Scots better than most. They lined up with an uncompromisingly antiquated flat back four, with Hendry standing tall as the great shag-haired villain.

They stressed their old-fashioned virtues of grit and defiance for all they were worth — after all, they had nothing else.

It all worked — astonishingly, impossibly. For the Dutch could not sustain their speed tactic of those frightening first minutes, and Scotland grew in the belief that these simple and ancient virtues could yet earn them some kind of result.

It all got rather bewildering for the Dutch, who found themselves transported to this footballing Brigadoon, this land of lost footballing virtues. The spell of the throwback had them all in its thrall, and only a goal could break the enchantment. It never came.

They do not give you a tackle-count in the post-match statistics, as they do in rugby league, but, if so, Collins might have topped the Scotland tally. It was his hand, too, that denied Holland when Goram, the goalkeeper, was beaten, but the referee saw nothing.

In fact, the only normal thing about this Scotland team is the fact that they now have a decent goalkeeper. To see Goram intervening with such confidence made you wonder if this was really a Scotland team that we were watching.

It is a mistake to believe that the desperate rear-guard actions in the face of overwhelming superiority are shattering to the confidence. It is, in fact, quite the reverse. Scotland grew in self-belief

and in self-delight as the second half waned.

If this was a team with style, with flair, with invention, these things were well buried, but the point is that this was a Scotland side with a purpose, with a firm sense of what they were about. That made an educational contrast with the England side that came so close to first-match self-destruction on Saturday.

It seemed on the hour that Scotland's own growing confidence would be their downfall. Hubris is as much an aspect of Scottish football as the tragic pratfall that follows it, but yesterday, it seemed that Scotland could cope with anything — even their own success. A modest success, it must be said, but anything short of disaster brings the Scots into new territory in tournament play. It is all getting very interesting indeed in this little group.

Scotland to qualify, England to fail? A mischievous thought, I know, but one that is certainly mathematically and, perhaps, even emotionally possible.

You kept waiting for the final twist, the last-second act of self-destruction, the nine-minute goal, unjust penalty, horrendous error. It never came. So another tradition goes out of the window. Is nothing sacred?

Boban salutes his brothers in arms

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

IT SOUNDS almost pompous to announce that you are playing for a nation, the whole nation. Yet, when the Croatia players talk of their motivation for the European championship finals, it is impossible to disbelieve or poke fun at them. Their country, caught up in the Balkan conflict, is gradually recovering its stability — and Euro 96 means so much.

"This is everything to us, it is enormous," Zvonimir Boban, the Croatia captain, said. "We had four years of suffering. We have had only a year of peace, and we feel a great nationalism, a great patriotism. We have to prove ourselves, for everyone."

Croatia take on Turkey in Group D at the City Ground, Nottingham, this evening with Boban, the AC Milan midfielder player, still unsure of how they will react on their debut in a leading tournament. "We are like a bomb: it is unpredictable," he said. "We could go out in the first round, or we could go on to win it. This is our reality."

Critics point to Croatia's individualism — too many generals and not enough soldiers — as a weakness. "It is true, we are not always a team," Boban said, "but we

have a tremendous spirit. We are the best of friends. It is like having an extra man."

Turkey, also making their bow in the European finals, hope to extend their stay beyond the group phase. "It was a major achievement for us to qualify, but that is not enough," Fatih Terim, the Turkey coach, said yesterday. "We want to prove that we are more than just a surprise team. We want to be successful." Turkey have lost only five matches, from 30, under Terim's guidance.

While ten of the probable Croatia starting-line-up play abroad, Turkey's entire 22-strong squad is based at home. Not for long, perhaps, with many looking to raise their profiles, and bank balances, by moving to Western Europe. They are already appreciative of the get-rich-quick qualities of the FA Carling Premiership.

"I want to play abroad and my priority is England," Abdullah Ercan, the Trabzonspor midfielder player, said. "I am not the only one. There are four or five of us. I like England, not only because of the style of play, but because each club is followed by around 20,000 fans." He clearly has not heard of Wimbledon.

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mentary continues to be hard work. It is the consistent lack of surprise, the scripted predictability that is so trying. I don't mean I want accidents, but a few unexpected insights would be nice. Last night we learnt how astronauts go to the loo in outer space. The answer, as I am sure you have anticipated, is: very carefully indeed.

CHANNEL 4

6.30am Chicken Minute (83430)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (11701)
9.00 The Golden Girls (r) (Teletext) (77169)
9.30 Schools: Eureka! (9814850) 9.45 Stop Look Listen (9842833) 10.00 Four wings Farm (9545610) 10.30 Co Sam Carlson (1284140) 10.30 The English Programme (60503) 11.00 Science Focus (4519701) 11.20 Stage On (9426614) 11.35 Schools at Work (7039968) 11.40 GNVQ - Is it for You? (9435188)
12.00 House to House (80833)
12.30pm Sesame Street (r) (s) (68594) 1.5.00 (Text) (5982)
1.55 Bicycle Symphony. A short film of a bicycle journey set to music of symphony orchestra. Followed by Of For Fun. A look at the clichéd camera angles used in western movies (5528986)
2.20 Film: The Awful Truth (1937). comedy starring Irene Dunne and Cary Grant. Directed by Leo McCarey. (Teletext) (532343)
4.00 Backdate (Teletext) (s) (121) 4.5 Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (633) 5.44 Ricki Lake (Teletext) (s) (7888256)
5.45 Terrylones (982856)
6.00 The Avengers (r) (Teletext) (92966)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (450458)
7.55 The Slot (76072)
8.00 Human Jungle: Virtuous Friends. (Teletext) (s) (818)
8.30 Brookside. Nat is worried that George will not stick to her part of the bargain. Leo has a confession for Mick. (Teletext) (s) (7695)
9.00 The False Economy: The Fallacy of Success. W. H. Auden continues his indictment of unmanagable capitalism. (Teletext) (s) (1633)

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7/40/42121 11.30 Public Domain
(1181874) 12.00 Jaagran
12.00 FLUX: Vaz Vicharni Ne Vaz (4655690)
4.00 FLUX (2402388) 4.30 Film Channel
5.00 Zee2 (27262) 5.00 Zee Zone (7763911) 5.30
Hum Zamana (2410305) 6.00 Dora
6.00 Zee1 (2410374) 6.30
7.00 Aash Nyaay Nyaay Andhra
7/47/49053 7.30 Sarani Ka Karvi
7.30/423411 8.00 News (7752701) 8.30
Dorani (7714858) 9.00 Aash Nyaay Nyaay
9.30 Aash Nyaay Nyaay Andhra

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News, on the hour.
 8.15am Panorama 9.30 Nature 10.15am
 Tomorrow's World 1.15pm The Morning
 Programme 2.15 World Business Report
 2.30 Newsnight Asia and Pacific 3.30 Travel
 Show 4.15 Panorama 5.30 Film '86 8.15am
 Panorama 9.30 International Festival of the
 Sea 12.10pm Newsnight 4.05 Under the
 Sun 5.00 Newsday

Fluent Holland thwarted by resilience of Craig Brown's team at Villa Park

Scotland take heart from luck of draw

Holland.....0
Scotland.....0

By Kevin McCarrar

A RESULT at Villa Park yesterday that left the four teams in Group A on level terms saw Scotland earn themselves a sense of superiority. It was not, naturally, that they proved themselves the better of the Dutch, but Craig Brown's team showed a resourcefulness and application that allowed them to withstand more powerful adversaries. "A draw is 100 per cent better than we are used to in the opening game of a tournament and, although we are not shouting about it, our team is hard to beat," the manager said.

"Bring on the English," Scotland's followers sang at the end. The swagman may yet prove ill-advised, but Scotland did have the level of fitness, honed in punishing sessions on the tour to the United States, that Terry Venables' pallid team had lacked on Saturday. By its very nature, of course, resilience requires time to be acknowledged and, in the beginning, the observer felt fear for Scotland rather than admiration.

To a degree, their plans were only a matter for conjecture, since most of the play in the first half forced them to disrupt their own formation as they tried to place improvised barriers in front of the Dutch. At one stage, Booth, the centre forward, was obliged to head behind his own goal for a corner kick.

Guus Hiddink's team had usurped the style that Scotland might have wished to adopt. The "total football" of the Dutch that the world so delights in praising does not

always feature studied, careful play. The flexibility of the men capable of employing it also encompasses flying pace and bludgeoning directness.

Scotland, who might have imagined that they could disrupt Holland's rhythm, appeared shocked to find themselves so harried. Boyd was booked as early as the third minute, when he could halt Taument only by felling him. Of course, the Dutch had more to offer than fierce speed and their accuracy allowed Brown's side no respite.

Those in the clamorous

mistake that they will construe as an act of mercy.

The incident began, in the sixth minute, with Bergkamp's wrenching run and cross, which Seedorf smacked against the goalkeeper before Taument's attempt was deflected for a corner. Witschge drifted the ball across and De Boer prodded it forward only to find Collins blocking on the line with, it appeared, his hand.

The midfield player, who joins AS Monaco next season, proved to have a much less dubious contribution to make. While it was impossible for he or McAllister wholly to stifle Holland's play-making, both men did insist on a place in the action. The recognition grew among the Scots and the Dutch that this was to be a protracted struggle. Brown's side reverting to a back four, knowing that it was the apt response to Holland's system of one striker and two wingers.

Scotland were never at their ease, but not a single save of note was required from Goram after the interval. Holland, however, did excuse him from action. The most majestic move of the game saw Davids, in the 51st minute, sweep the ball wide to De Boer, who invited Taument to provide the cross that Seedorf headed down into the ground and, on the bounce, over the bar. His team-mates will also brood over the referee's refusal to award a penalty when, after an hour, McKinnie appeared to bring down Jord.

As the game moved to its close, Hendry waited to nod a header from Kluivert carefully off the goal line and only a deflection thwarted Seedorf when he whirled and shot.

Throughout the match Scotland's attacks were little more than spells of respite. This, however, was not a day for Scotland to ponder their limitations. Instead, they were entitled to the boundless pride in the intransigence that their supporters acclaimed at full-time.

HOLLAND (3-1-3-9): E. Van der Saar (Ajax) — M. Reiziger (Ajax), J. de Rooy (Roda JC), W. Bongerds (Ajax) — E. Davids (Ajax) — R. de Boer (Ajax), J. de Winter (Lazio, Roma), G. Seedorf (Barcelona), R. Witschge (Barcelona), sub: P. Coucou, PSV Eindhoven, 70 — G. Taument (Feyenoord), sub: P. Kluivert, Ajax, 61, U. Bergkamp (Ajax, Jordi (Barcelona).

SCOTLAND (4-1-3-9): A. Goram (Preston) — S. McKinnie (Aberdeen), sub: G. Barry, Chelsea, 63, C. Calderwood (Preston), T. Boyd (Colchester), S. McAllister (Preston), K. Gallacher (Blackburn Rovers), sub: W. McAllister, Blackburn Rovers, 50, G. McAllister (Leeds United), J. Collins (Leeds), sub: G. Durie (Preston), S. Booth (Aberdeen), sub: J. Spence (Preston), 45.

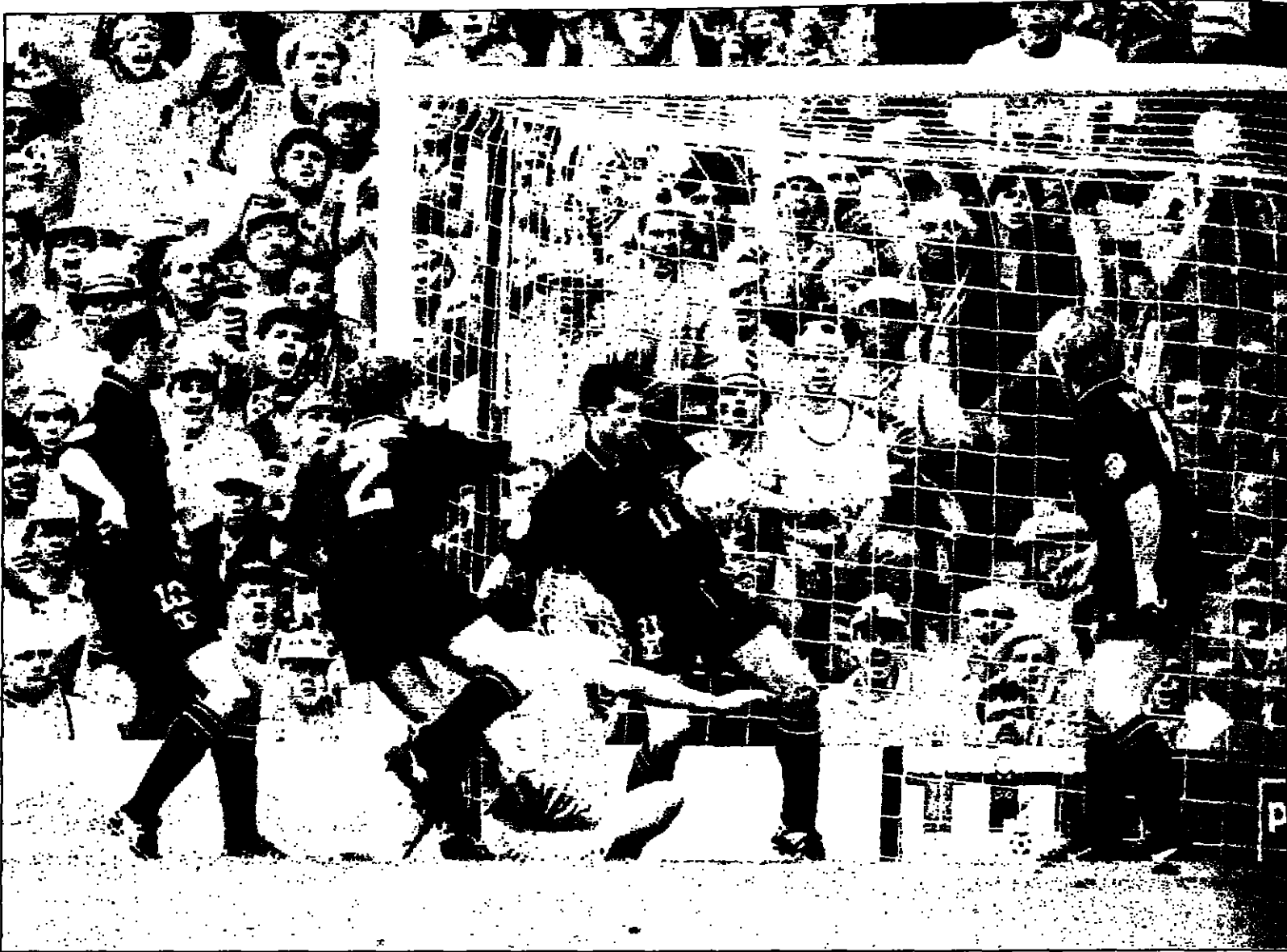
Referee: L. Sundell (Sweden).



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Simon Barnes

stadium who could spare a thought for calculation judged that Holland had hogged 75 per cent of the possession in the opening quarter of an hour. That Scotland should survive owed something to factors for which they could take only partial credit.

Scotland winced whenever they were asked to face a set-piece, and Bergkamp, in the 24th minute, was puffed by his failure to beat the expert Goram after De Boer had diverted a corner to him. A beleaguered side, however, had also benefited from a



Collins appears to block De Boer's effort with his hand in the European championship Group A match yesterday. Photograph: Adam Butler

Dutch fail to match famous forebears

ROB HUGHES



at Villa Park

THE flowers of Scotland and the undeveloped bulbs of Holland gave England both a reason to feel relief and plenty to fear yesterday. The relief will come because Group A now starts all over again, all square, but the almost tireless thirst of Scotland, in chasing down and closing down the obvious technical supremacy of the Dutch, suggests that, if England do not, by some miracle, recapture a semblance of fitness and belief, then Scotland could hold them. It would mean that England would have to beat Holland in the final match to reach the quarter-finals.

What of this new generation of Dutchmen? Certainly, they are not as talented, as imperious or as experienced as the Johan Cruyff team of the 1974 World Cup. Nor are they as incisive and sure of themselves as the class of 1988, the European champions.

In the first half, once they became distracted after missing those early chances, they elected to battle it out, to meet the frenzied tempo of Scottish football man against man. In this period, Clarence Seedorf and Edgar Davids put in so many tackles, so much fierce attrition, that heaven help England if Gascoigne is on

half a lung again when they meet.

Both these players were out of position. Davids was asked to patrol in front of the back four. Seedorf effectively to play off the main striker, who, for much of this game, was Dennis Bergkamp. However, Bergkamp plainly is no centre forward. He lacks the real courage to lead the line, lacks the relish to stand with his back against markers as huffful as Hendry and Calderwood. He prefers a ghosting role behind a true No 9. Yet Patrick Kluivert, so

soon after his traumatic court case, where he was found guilty of killing a man and maiming a woman at the wheel of a BMW, and only a month after knee surgery, is being eased back only gingerly.

What this Dutch team is really lacking is leadership — the return of Danny Blind could cure that — and penetration on the flanks. They sorely miss the speed and balance of Marc Overmars. Gaston Taument flattered to deceive and Jordi Cruyff has speed and athleticism, but nothing like his father's touch and intuition for the game.

Van der Saar is a beanpole goalkeeper of extremes and the defence in front of him can never settle. His style is unorthodox, laced with an almost alarming languidity. At times he appears to flap like a windmill, to punch when the easy and safe option would be to gather the ball. Yet he has quite a record and is apparently content with his erratic style.

It had always seemed premature to make this Dutch team favourites for Euro 96 when they had qualified through the back door of a play-off against Ireland. That day, Kluivert was breathtak-

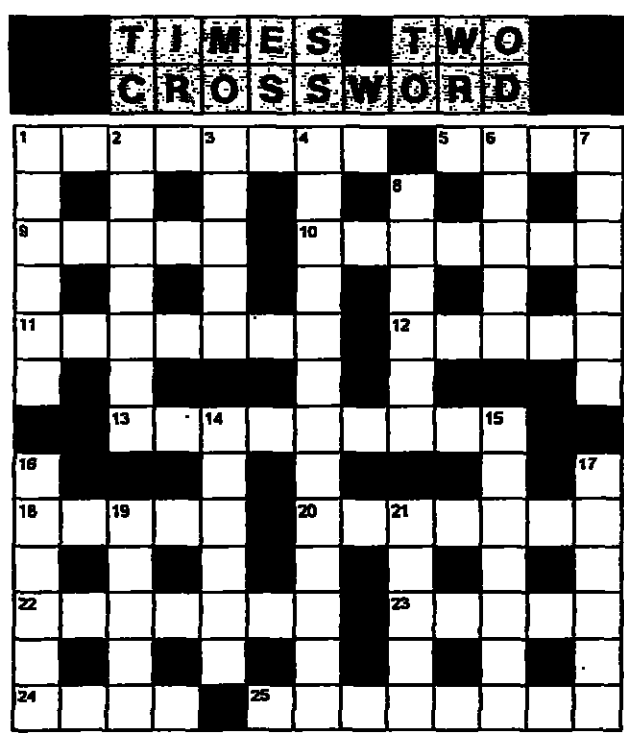
ing, so tall, so composed and a finisher so deadly. He just might, if the rest can buy him time to fully recuperate, find that belief again.

Nevertheless, however far the Dutch are going, they lack the almost wicked degree of fine technique that we saw from Bulgaria on Sunday. Instead, it was Holland's workers who took the eye yesterday: Richard Witschge covered every blade of grass; Ronald de Boer, another man functioning in a position foreign to his nature, almost made up for the absence of his more gifted brother, the injured Frank.

Two things lifted the soul of the audience at Villa Park. First was the unremitting approach of both sides, laced with sportsmanship, as when Stuart McKinnie immediately applied first aid when de Boer fell wounded with

cramp. Second was the essence of football itself, this old, rebuilt Victorian ground reverberating to a wonderful atmosphere. The Dutch, in particular, support their players with almost an interactive participation. When their team hits a lull, the band from Amsterdam strikes up, immediately putting an extra yard into the performers.

When they study the video of this match, the Dutch will know that being drawn into a physical contest with the Scots is no way to beat them. The manner in which they circled the ball after half-time, making Scotland run for it, was more impressive. In the final analysis, though, they did not oblige Andy Goram to make a single save in that second half, testimony in itself to the brave hearts of Hendry and company.



No 805

ACROSS

- 1 Wing crossing nave (8)
- 5 Steep cliff; wound mark (4)
- 9 Move with reluctance (5)
- 10 Considering everything (3,4)
- 11 Tale of chivalry; Latin-derived (language) (7)
- 12 Naive; grassy area (5)
- 13 Proposed (for office) (9)
- 18 Item giving advantage (5)
- 20 Rumour (7)
- 22 Very brave behaviour (7)
- 23 Australian marsupial (5)
- 24 Lug; betting system (4)
- 25 Borrowing charge; a hobby (8)

DOWN

- 1 London gallows site (6)
- 2 Rear segment of arthropod (7)
- 3 Lustrous surface (5)
- 4 Favourable, warm position (5,2,3,3)
- 6 Constrict; carburettor valve (5)
- 7 Going on horseback (6)
- 8 Escape (not recess, by air) (6)
- 14 Dine in rows and columns (6)
- 15 Illness (7)
- 16 Small sealed bag (6)
- 17 A Capulet killed in brawl (R & J) (6)
- 19 Non-fat-eating Jack; a small fish (5)
- 21 Leg/foot joint (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 804

ACROSS: 1 Dressage 5 Calf 8 Twist 9 Rigging 11 Owe 12 Ill at ease 13 Trough 15 Mosaic 18 Entourage 19 Car 20 Breaker 21 Henna 22 Roof 23 Clarence

DOWN: 1 Detroit 2 Exile 3 Sitting duck 4 Carble 6 Al Baba 7 Fugue 10 Get together 14 On the go 16 Carnage 17 Patrol 18 Ember 19 Canon

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RFU opts to stay isolated over television rights

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

CONFIRMATION yesterday from the Rugby Football Union (RFU) of its withdrawal from the joint negotiating process with the three other home countries over television rights and its acceptance of an exclusive £37.5 million offer from BSkyB, effective from 1997 to 2002, threatens the continuation of the five nations' championship.

Vernon Pugh, the chairman of the Welsh Rugby Union, will seek the exclusion of England from the championship in the 1996-97 season, though his colleagues in Ireland and Scotland are more cautious. "This decision will have inevitable consequences for the format of the championship," Fred McLeod, a vice-president of the Scottish Rugby Union, said. "We are pretty confident England will be asked to make alternative arrangements for 1997-98."

Yet the other unions will have to consider the economic consequences of England's expulsion. BSkyB, the satellite television company which is 40 per cent-owned by News International, owners of The Times, has also offered a total of £96.5 million to Wales, Ireland and Scotland once the existing BBC contract runs out next March.

Indeed, suspending fixtures with England would cause BSkyB to rethink their offer. "It's not rocket science to calculate what the commercial value of England in an international is," David Elstein, the head of programming for Sky, said. "It's an unwelcome news for the other unions, but that's the commercial reality."

Under the existing three-year deal, England have received £4.25 million per annum from a BBC contract boosted by a side agreement with Sky. The other unions have each received £2.38 million, the lion's share of satellite money going to England — an acknowledgement of the principle now at issue, that England have, in their own phrase, more mouths to feed.

The new deal gives England £37.5 million over five years and is dependent upon Sky finding a terrestrial partner who will guarantee full coverage of Twickenham internationals a minimum of two hours after the game ends. "If we had no terrestrial package, we would be in trouble with our members," Tony Hallett, the RFU secretary, said.

Of that sum, £22.5 million is guaranteed to go to the leading clubs, though, boiled down, it leaves only £4.5

million per annum to be divided between the 24 Courage Clubs Championship first and second division clubs. At present, however, the first division clubs receive only £100,000 a season from television and more money should become available from sponsorship deals and from involvement in Europe which, being already spoken for by ITV, falls outside the Sky agreement.

Wales have been offered £40.5 million over the same five-year period. Scotland and Ireland £28 million each. The smaller sum provides for £5 million to go to the clubs while the larger sum includes £17.5 million for Wales's top clubs, who may well exert pressure on their own union to accept.

The whole amounts to a bid of £184 million for British rugby over five years and is directly comparable to the £370 million deal over ten years concluded by News Corporation with the three southern-hemisphere powers.

When the five nations' committee meets next month, it should have before it all the offers and will know — particularly Wales and Ireland, who are committed to multi-million-pound rebuilding projects — where it stands.

Finger of fate rules out Knight

WARWICKSHIRE have suffered the backlash of their own untrustworthy pitch (Alan Lee writes). Nick Knight, their opening batsman, will miss the Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final at Northampton today after discovering that he broke a finger while batting for England at Edgbaston.

Knight was struck on Saturday evening as he opened the England second innings, but it was not until late the next day, after victory in the first Test had been secured, that the pain persuaded him to undergo a hospital X-ray. It revealed a fracture to the little finger of his right hand.

Early indications are that Knight will not be fit for two weeks, which would rule him out of the second Test, at Lord's. England, naturally keen to retain the personnel of Edgbaston, will give him every opportunity to prove his recovery, but it is another cruel blow for a player whose Test career just cannot get properly started.

The revelation of his third wounded digit inside ten months came after a game in which he made only 27 and 14 but fielded and caught well and looked very much part of a vibrant, confident side.

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